

THE HOTTEST
ALT GIRLS IN
ONE MAGAZINE

PEGGYSUE • NANCY • REBECCA CR

CORYN BETTS

ISSUE 83 • FREE

ELLE

FEATURING
ALTERBRIDGE, BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE, PIERCE THE VEIL,
THE AMITY AFFLICTION, BEARTOOTH, BABYMETAL,
TRIVIUM & MORE

#83
and the
CREW

with some sick styling from

MALICE LINGERIE • KILLSTAR CLOTHING
SMALL VICTORY • LOVECHILD BOUDOIR
CAMILLY • BAD BISH RAGS AND MORE







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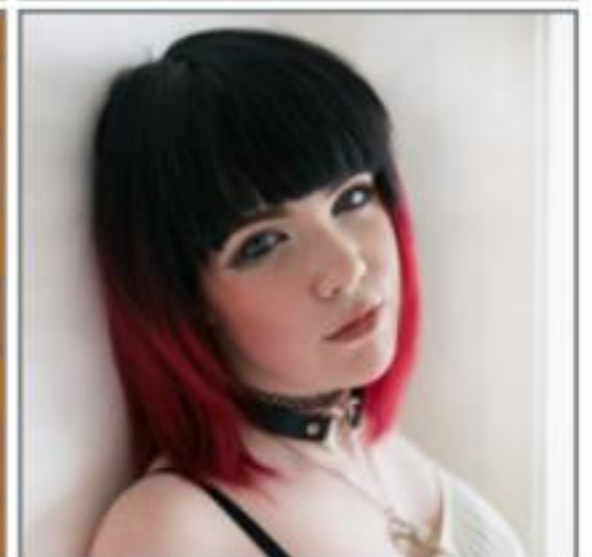
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RIAE

- 08 - ROSIE DANVERS
- 18 - LOVECHILD BOUDOIR
- 21 - MISS DEADLY RED
- 32 - CORYN BETTS
- 44 - SMALL VICTORY CLOTHING
- 46 - TAYLA J NOVELLI
- 58 - ROBYN BROOKE
- 69 - RIAE
- 84 - NANCY
- 96 - CAMILLY CLOTHING
- 98 - PEGGYSUE
- 110 - BAD BISH RAGS
- 112 - JO KAVANAGH
- 122 - BAD BISH RAGS
- 124 - ERICA, SOPHOULLA & KESHIA
- 145 - REBECCA CROW
- 154 - DETH KULT
- 156 - NATALIE
- 166 - KILLSTAR
- 169 - NYMPHAE
- 180 - BRIAN FALLON & THE CROWES
- 184 - PIERCE THE VEIL
- 188 - ALTERBRIDGE
- 192 - BEARTOOTH
- 194 - BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE
- 198 - THE AMITY AFFLICTION
- 200 - THE SOUND OF REVOLUTION
- 206 - COUNTERPARTS
- 208 - 2016 ALBUM OF THE YEAR
- 216 - REVIEWS
- 218 - NEW AND UNSIGNED
- 219 - ELITE: UPRISING



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Lana Loves

**ROSIE
DANVERS**

Photographer: Lana Parker



Hey Rosie! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about yourself:
Hey Elite! I am a part time model, 23 years old based in Rochester, Kent.

What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? Lana is the best. She's my agent as well my makeup artist, photographer and a good friend. I trust her completely so the shoot was fun and relaxed!




Photographer: Lana Parker

WHAT'S A GUARANTEED
TURN ON FOR YOU?
FOOD HAHA. I LOVE IT
WHEN SOMEONE CAN
COOK A GOOD MEAL.







What was your favourite part of the shoot? I always love getting my hair and makeup done. I'm rubbish at doing it myself so Lana painted my face and did my hair so I looked the part for you!

What's your favourite part of your body and why? Erm that's a tricky one... I'm pretty laid back about my own looks as it's just me! But if I had to say anything it would be my stomach. It always looks toned and I have no idea why as I do no exercise whatsoever haha.

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? I can't answer that! Haha.

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? The dream is to be a Victoria Secrets angel. But I also love Boux Avenue and Ann Summers and they would both be amazing jobs!

What's your favourite song currently? Starboy by The Weeknd.

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? I just hope they enjoy them!

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? I would love to tell you I eat healthily and that I work out but in all honesty I eat like a pig and do one plank every month!

What do you like most about Elite? I love the variation of girls you have in the magazine. I think it's really positive to show such a variety of girls!

Photographer: Lana Parker

DESCRIBE YOUR PERFECT
PHOTOSHOOT: ON A BEACH
SOMEWHERE TROPICAL IN
SOME BEAUTIFUL BEACH
WEAR. MAYBE LYING IN A
HAMMOCK UNDER A PALM
TREE SOMEWHERE.







FROM LANA

Lana, what was it like working with Rosie? It was awesome shooting Rosie again! I did one of her (and mine!) first ever shoots so it's awesome to see how far she's come. She's definitely one of my favourite models, both to shoot and to work with as a whole. She's so cute and sweet when you meet her in real life and then when she starts modelling it's like POW! And this inner Beyoncé comes out! She's really impressed me this year and I'm super proud of everything she's achieved. Well done my little Rozza! I hope everyone likes this shoot as much as I enjoyed shooting it!

Photographer: Lana Parker



FINALLY, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO THE ELITE READERS? THANK YOU AND I HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED MY SHOOT! IF YOU LIKE ME THEN PLEASE CHECK OUT MY TWITTER @ROSIEGIRLSOHO AND INSTA @ROSIEDANVERS AS WELL AS MY WEBSITE ROSIEDANVERS.CO.UK! LOTS OF LOVE FOR YOU ALL XX



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FRESH TO DEATH APPAREL SINCE 2012



Model : Steffie Hache

Photographer : @mrtimefreezer



MISS DEADLY RED

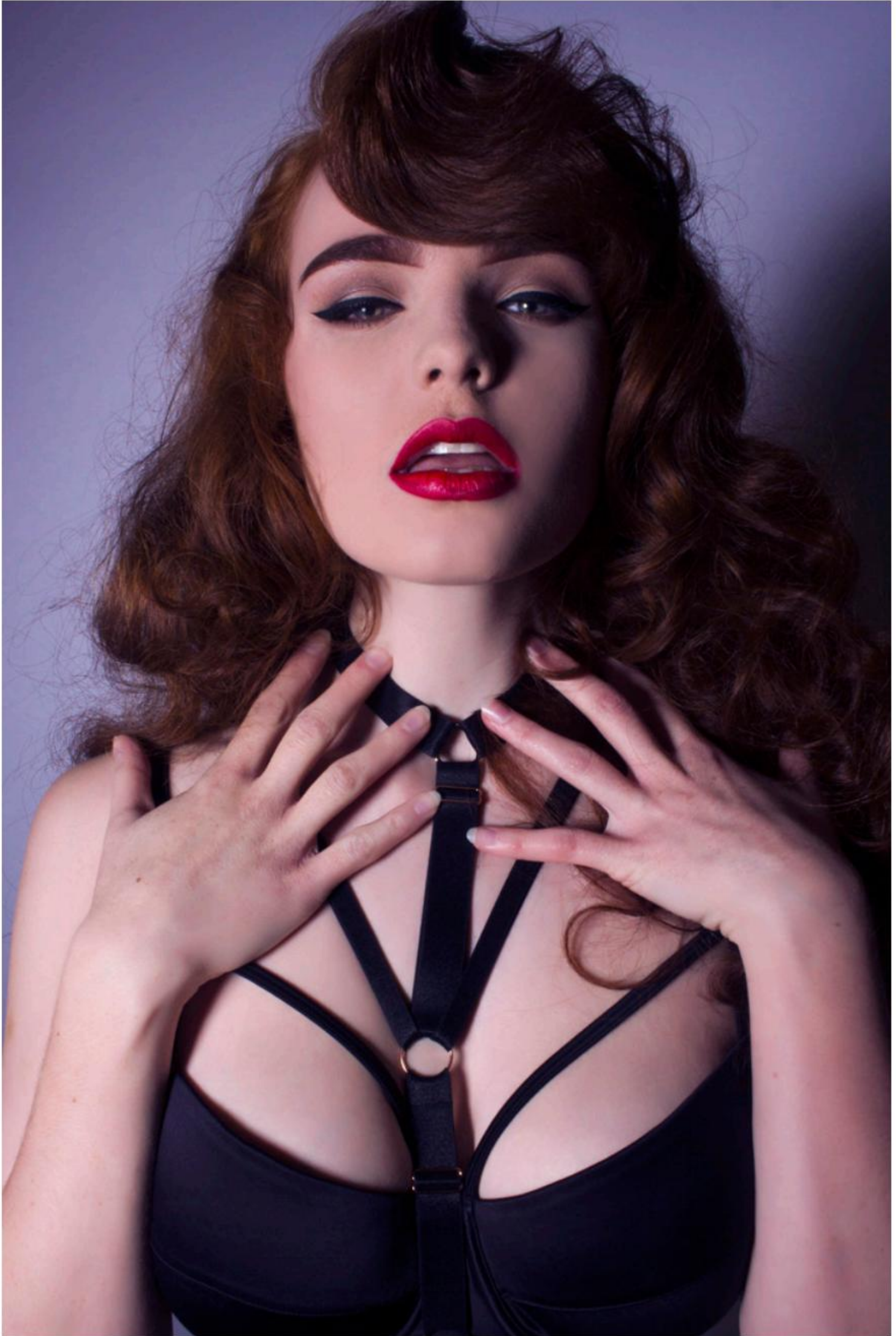
Photographer: ATOM

So Miss Deadly Red, did you enjoy your shoot for Elite? I had great fun with my shoot for Elite, it was a super chilled out fun shoot. We got some awesome shots and listened to some awesome old school gangster rap!

You are from Portsmouth, does this mean you are the poshest model we have featured? I wouldn't exactly call Portsmouth "posh", anyone that's been there would understand! But I don't have a typical Portsmouth accent (which I'm mocked profusely for) because my parents are from Surrey and Nottingham, so I have a bit of a non-descript accent!

If you can travel anywhere else in the world, where would it be and why? If I could travel anywhere I would probably go to New Zealand, because the scenery is so beautiful, so many of my favourite films were shot there and it would be incredible to just have a bit of an explore!





What has been your favourite shoot to date? It would probably be a shoot I did with Rosie Red Corsetry because her designs are just stunning, she's so incredibly talented and a beautiful person inside and out. The atmosphere for the shoot had just so much love, talent and happiness to it, we had brilliant fun dressing up in Rosie's designs and we had a few hiccups because of the weather but it didn't stop the team from creating some beautiful work. Also her glorious mum made the best picnic ever where I tried red velvet cake for the first time and it changed my world! Two years later I still adore that shoot!

What was it like working with our team? It was super fun working with the Elite team! It was a super friendly, super chilled out atmosphere, especially when we went for a cuppa at the super snazzy Cat Cafe in Newcastle, there's nothing better after a shoot than being surrounded with beautiful little kitties!

Who is your favourite model right now? It's difficult to pick a favourite model because there's so many people I really admire. I must admit though I adore the style of Stefania Ferrario, she's an advocate of the curvy movement trying to get the beauty of curves into mainstream modelling. Her work is unique, fun and really shows her personality through her photos!

Photographer: ATOM





What's your favourite body part? I mentioned it the last time I worked with Elite but it is still the same, I've always loved my hands as I've struggled throughout my life not liking different parts of my body for various reasons but my hands are something I've never wanted to change, also they allow me to create pieces of art through makeup (as I am a makeup artist as well, this is something that's always been very important to me) and I wouldn't change my hands as in a way they show my journey through my life more than any other part of me does!

Ok standard interview question here... you are allowed to have dinner with 3 people... one has to be dead, one has to be alive and one has to be someone you want to exist but doesn't... who d you invite? Ooh interesting question! The person that would be dead would be Rita Hayworth because I've always thought she would be a beautiful person inside and out and it would be an honour to meet someone I admire so much! The person that would be alive would be my mum because she's been there for me through everything and 100% she would want to meet Rita Hayworth! Someone who doesn't exist would be probably my favourite childhood toy, Lavender, because it would be super interesting to see if she actually liked all the crazy games I would play with her!



TELL US SOMETHING
THAT NO ONE
KNOWS ABOUT YOU:
SOMETHING NO ONE
KNOWS ABOUT ME IS A
HARD ONE, SOMETHING
A TAD STRANGE BUT
IT EXPLAINS A LOT
ABOUT ME, WHEN I
WAS LITTLE I USED TO
EAT SOAP, I LIKE TO
THINK THAT'S WHERE
MY LOVE OF CLEANING
COMES FROM!





**ANY PLANS TO
COME BACK TO
US OR IS THIS THE
LAST TIME WE WILL
SEE YOU? OH YES!
VERY SOON I HOPE.**



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Coryn



R **Betts**

Photographer: Tripodski

Hey Coryn! Welcome to Elite, what was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? Hey! working with the photographer was so much fun! it's just like hanging out with your friends except your half naked and full sass!

What was your favourite part of the shoot? When I was in the shower because it was so warm!

What's your favourite part of your body and why? It's probably my legs and ass, mainly because I love the tattoos I have there!

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? I don't want to sound big headed but I'd say I'm a good 8 with the right lighting and filter ;)

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? I'd love to model for Yeezy! I love how stripped back all these models are... just the bare essentials!

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which two celebrity combatants will you book and why? I'd hire Megan Fox and Gigi Hadid, because who wouldn't want to see that!



Photographer: Tripodski



What's your favourite song currently?

My favorite song right now is Power Over Men - Jamie T.

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag?

I just want people to have a little introduction to who I am... like a little hello!

What's a guaranteed turn on for you?

Manners and being a gentleman/woman.

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck?

I go dancing a lot! It's fun and keeps you looking good!

Photographer: Tripodski









**WHAT DO YOU LIKE
MOST ABOUT ELITE?**
WHAT I LOVE MOST
ABOUT ELITE IS THE
PEOPLE BEHIND IT.
THEY'RE AWESOME.

**DESCRIBE YOUR PERFECT
PHOTOSHOOT: A PERFECT PHOTO
SHOOT IS JUST LOADS OF GLITTER
AND PRETTY THINGS... YOU
KNOW REAL GIRLY STUFF!**

Photographer: Tripodski





FINALLY, IS THERE
ANYTHING YOU WOULD
LIKE TO SAY TO THE
ELITE READERS? I'D JUST
LIKE TO SAY YOU'RE ALL
FUCKING GREAT!





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Photographer: Tristan Manas

TAYLA J

Novelli





Photographer: Tristan Manas

Hey Tayla! What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? Hi! It's always such a fun time working with Tristan, not only do we always have a laugh but I learn new things each and everytime we shoot.

What was your favorite part of the shoot? My favourite part would have been walking out onto the balcony and seeing two bum prints on the glass from a previous shoot. Or when I tried to act sexy and flick my hair... I believe I was far from sexy at the time.

What's your favourite part of your body and why? My stomach, because of how flat it is no matter what or my bum :) it's tiny but round and can give off a good giggle ;)

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? I'd have to say 187 clothing for a brand I've always been a fan of Brittanya since I watched her on Rock of Love and Charm School. I've always loved Showpo and would love the opportunity to change up my look and shoot for such a great brand.

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? Margot Robbie, Cara Delevingne, Jaime Pressly and Marie Avgeropoulos. What a wrestling match that would be, they all have a fiery side to them and it would be one interesting match to watch.

What's your favourite song currently? Thinking About You by Hardwell. It just makes me so happy inside

WHAT'S A GUARANTEED
TURN ON FOR YOU?
TATTOOS AND LOTS OF
THEM ;) WITH A SMILE
TO DIE FOR AND A
UNIQUE PERSONALITY.

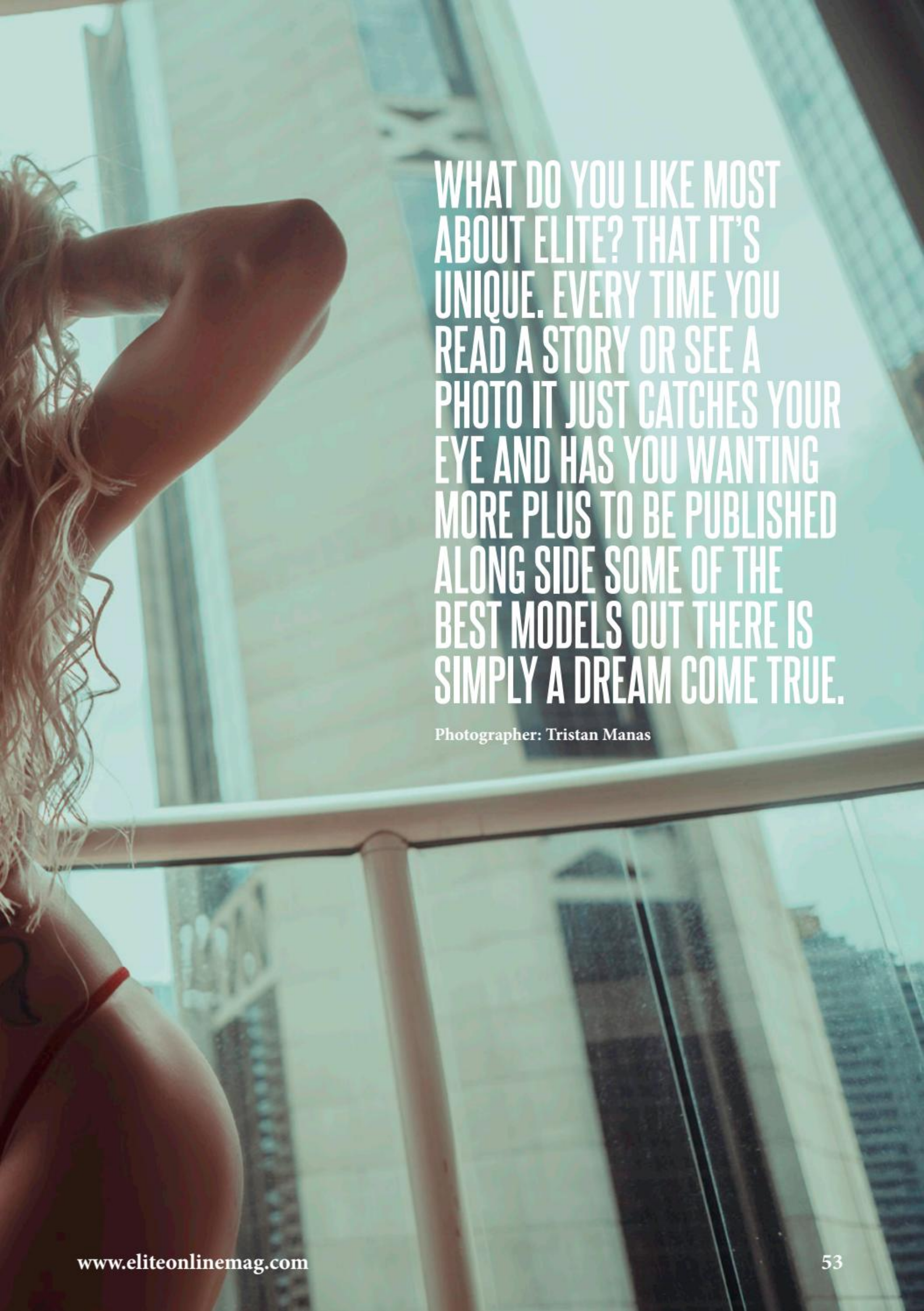


What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? That you don't need clean skin to be beautiful and that you can find beauty in anyone and that you don't need to bend to the thoughts of society to become the model you want to be. I've succeeded why can't you.

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? Haha definitely luck and genes, with a little bit of exercise thrown in there.

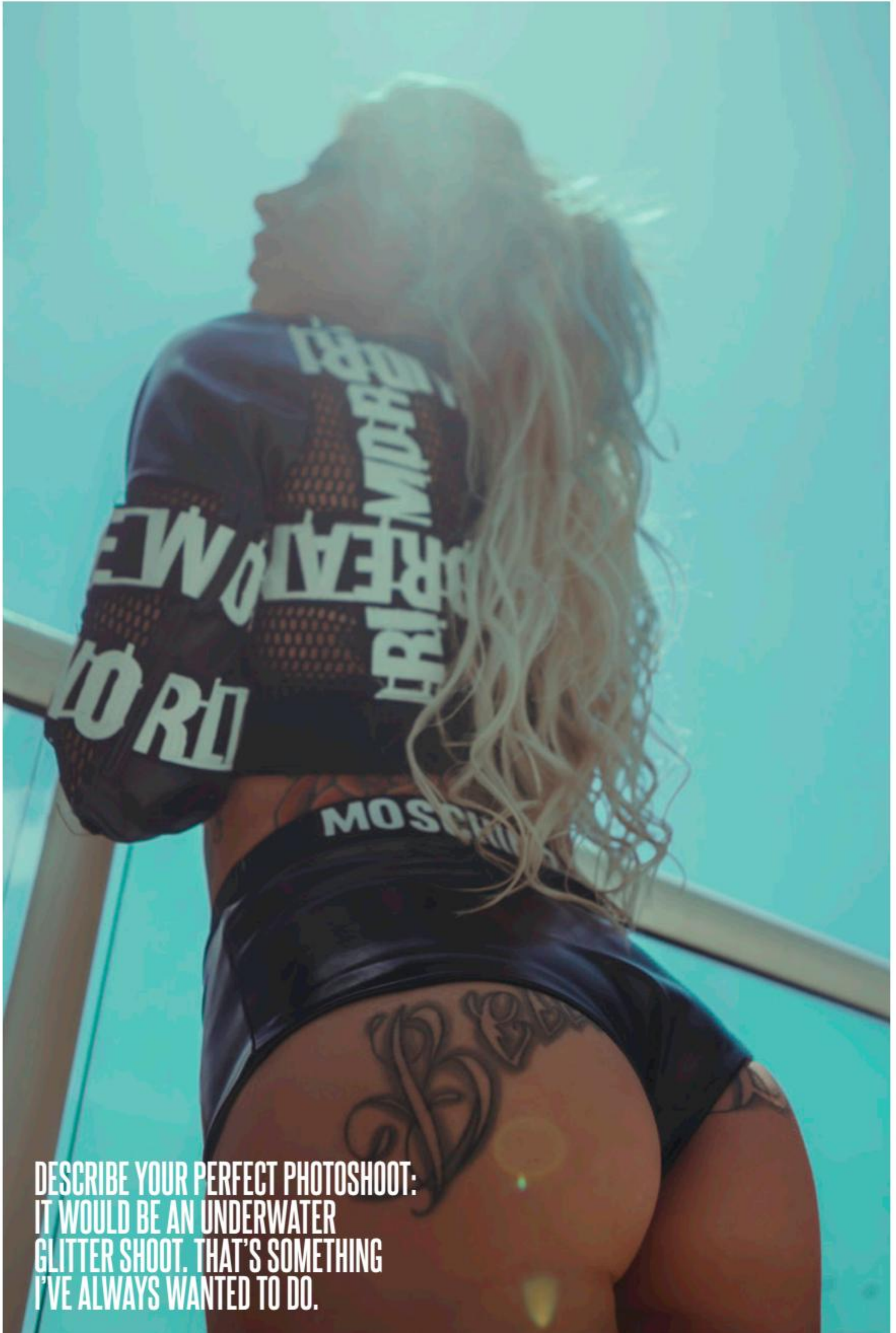






WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT ELITE? THAT IT'S UNIQUE. EVERY TIME YOU READ A STORY OR SEE A PHOTO IT JUST CATCHES YOUR EYE AND HAS YOU WANTING MORE PLUS TO BE PUBLISHED ALONG SIDE SOME OF THE BEST MODELS OUT THERE IS SIMPLY A DREAM COME TRUE.

Photographer: Tristan Manas



DESCRIBE YOUR PERFECT PHOTOSHOOT:
IT WOULD BE AN UNDERWATER
GLITTER SHOOT. THAT'S SOMETHING
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO.

Finally, is there anything you would like to say to the Elite Readers? I've always said it... don't try be who you're not, because remember you were once nothing for those in the industry and once had no support compared to what you have now. I've come across a lot of girls who lose their personality and become bitchy, think they are better than you and everyone else. For what shall it profit a woman if she shall gain the whole world but lose her own soul? I don't believe in God, but I believe in that to those reading this and support me thank you so much and to those who have stuck by me, you're the true meaning to my life! Anyone who ever needs advice my pages are instagram: @tayla_j_model | facebook: Tayla Jane Lucia Novelli. Please hit me up I'd love to hear from you <3





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ROBYN BROOKE

Photographer: Laughing Orc



Hey Robyn! Welcome back to Elite, what was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot?

Hey, I'm back again :) the gaming nut who occasionally does this modeling thing... and likes pigs!

It was great working with James! We hadn't worked together in a while so I was really looking forward to it and he was far from disappointing. It was so chilled, we had a good laugh and got some really good images. :) 10/10

What was your favourite part of the shoot? Probably showing him my Giggity Gauss rifle? Haha.

What's your favourite part of your body and why? Definitely my eyes. I like how big they are and they help me get away with anything...

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? Hmm shouldn't that be for the audience to decide? I'm far too modest!

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? I'm not sure... but I've always wanted to be in some kind of fragrance ad? The models are always so seductive looking, yet elegant. I like that.

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? A what now?! Haha, so basically what hotties do I wanna see rolling around in jelly? Easy - Mika Kunis, Shakira, Mila Jovovich , Emma stone and Beyoncé.

What's your favourite song currently? Prayer In C. It reminds me of summer and holidays so I can't stop listening to it now it's turned cold!







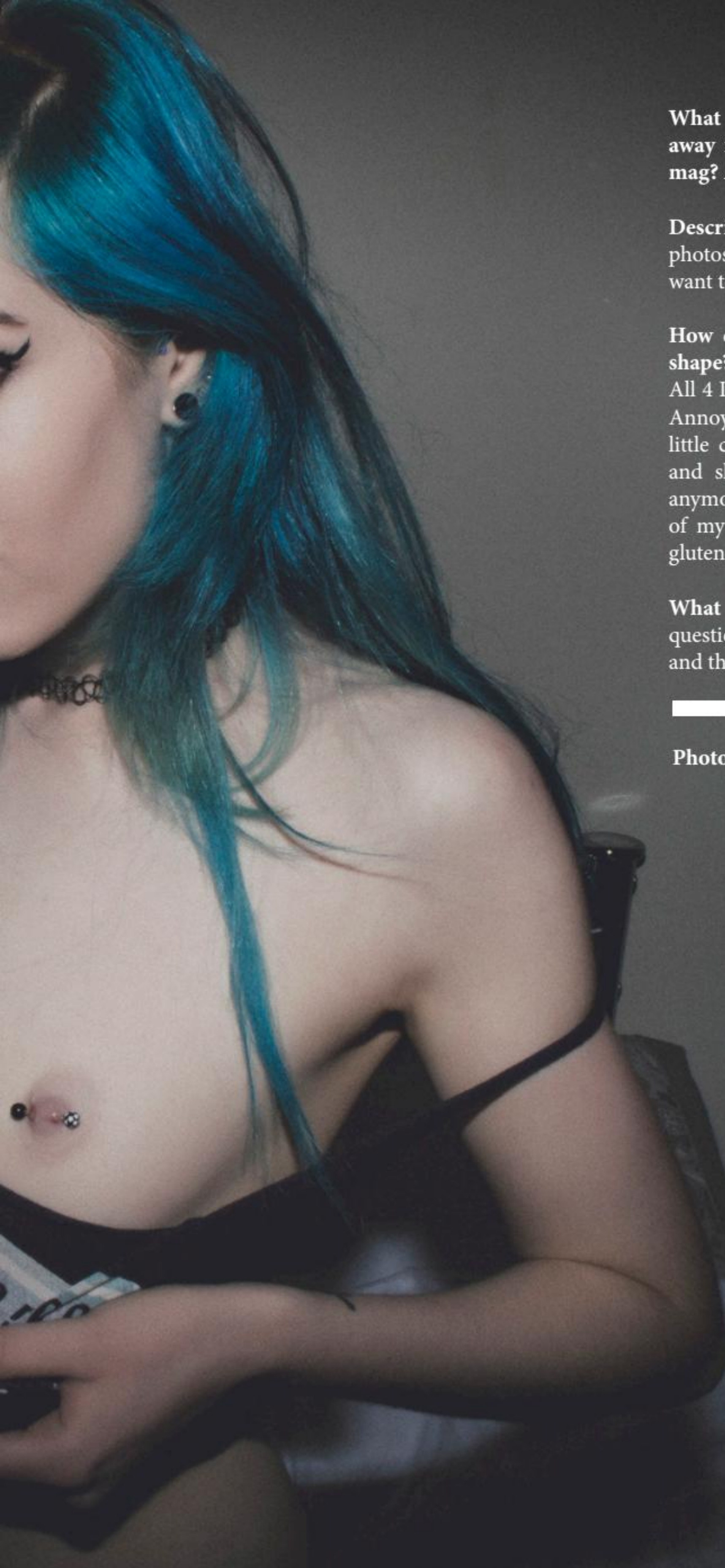


Photographer: Laughing Orc



WHAT'S A GUARANTEED
TURN ON FOR YOU? I'VE
PROBABLY SAID THIS
BEFORE, BUT A REALLY
GOOD AFTERSHAVE
DOES GET ME.





What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? A love for the turquoise!

Describe your perfect photoshoot: A photoshoot in the warmth! Haha no, I really want to shoot on location in LA :)

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? All 4 I think! I don't put on weight easy at all! Annoying sometimes as I would love to be a little curvier. My mum is also small framed and slim like me. I don't work out much anymore, but still get enough exercise because of my husky and diet wise, I have to avoid gluten anyway! So a good diet is easy for me!

What do you like most about Elite? The questions are fun, they pick awesome models and the articles and layout is top!



Photographer: Laughing Orc

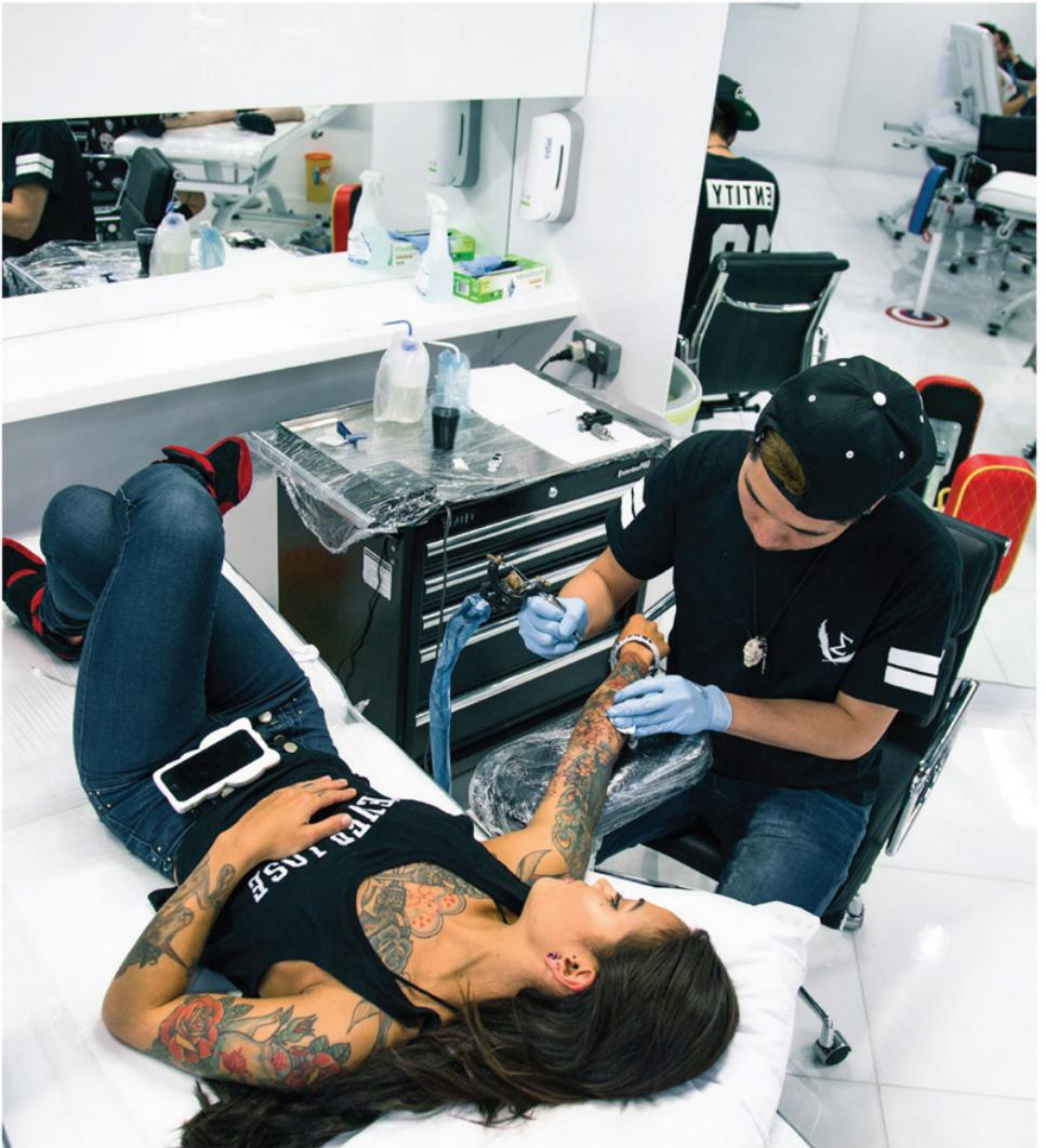


Photographer: Laughing Orc





FINALLY, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO THE ELITE READERS? KEEP READING AND ALSO DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW MY INSTAGRAM IF YOU WISH TO SEE MORE! @ROBYNBROOKEMODEL



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Rise

Photographer: Tripodski

Welcome Riae, how are you? Hey! I'm fine thank you!

Seriously though, we're so thrilled to have you in Elite again Riae. Did you have fun shooting for us?

Absolutely yes. Meeting and shooting for Elite was amazing!

What is like to grace our cover for the second time?

I'm so happy! It has passed several years and I'm just as excited as the first time!

What was it like to shoot with Tripodski?

Tripodski is one of the best photographers I have met and with whom I have worked in recent years, and he can make you feel ok in any situation.

You always seem so effortless on camera, is it hard reinventing yourself for new features?

For me it is natural enough to pose, it is one of the things I enjoy most in life.

So you seem to be traveling everywhere these days... where has been your favourite place?

I think Mexico! I love everything about this country, the people, the food (finally my stomach didn't get sick) and the weather! I was in Mexico with Rebecca Crow a few weeks ago, for Concomic, she is the best work-mate I could have asked for.

You're Italian, we love that! What is the most Italian thing you do?

Ok, we must dispel the myth of "MAMMA MIA!", not all Italians do this haha! But when I speak, I do move my hands so much (as we Italians often do).

Photographer: Tripodski





What are your hobbies? Surely cooking is in first place, but I also do yoga and make clothing.

You are without a doubt one of the most amazing people we have met! Have you always thought you wanted to model or did it just happen? It just happened. Until 10 years ago I had no idea that I would become a model, I was so scared by the camera! It all started with SuicideGirls and slowly my work has evolved.

Something you wear with aplomb is your tattoos. We bet you are starting to put together quite a collection. What is your favourite piece? I do not think I have a favourite tattoo, perhaps the one that belongs to me is the heart with pins on the chest, but I also love the portrait on my the leg, with my cat Clark resting on my head.

It was clear from your feature you have a great figure! Where does that come from? Do you have to work for it or is it just good jeans/genes? I try to have a healthy lifestyle, no sodas, no alcohol and workout often. Obviously I can not stop all the pasta, pizza, cakes, cappuccino, chinese food etc.



You have one of the best bums going! What is your personal fave body part? Thank you! probably my favorite part of my body are the eyes. My butt unfortunately has never been beautiful, for some years, with diet and workout it's slowly taking shape

With that in mind, which person do you think has the best bum at the moment? Absolutely Charlotte Something!






MALICE LINGERIE

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SOMEONE ONCE ASKED ME TO DESCRIBE "AWESOME" IN ONE WORD AND I SAID RIAE. YOU'RE A DEFINITE ICON OF JUST GENERALL AMAZINGNESS TOO. DO YOU SEE YOURSELF AS A AWESOME PERSON? THANK YOU SO MUCH. I THINK I CAN NOT DESCRIBE HOW I SEE MYSELF, BUT IT'S NICE THAT YOU THINK THAT OF ME. BATTI CINQUE! (GIVE ME FIVE!)

What's next for Riae? I have big plans for 2017, but these are still a secret.

Are you a homebird or someone that prefers a night on the town? As you saw in these days spent together, I'm definitely not a nocturnal animal, at 11pm I usually go to sleep or watch TV series. Sometimes I love going out with friends, but I am old... after 11pm I start to be sleepy.

Have you got a message for your masses of fans and our lovely Elite readers? I hope that you appreciate this interview and the photos.



WHAT ARE YOUR FAVOURITE MEMORIES FROM YOUR AMAZING MODELLING CAREER SO FAR? PROBABLY TO SEE MY FACE ON TV WHILE I CUDDLE A CAT IN A CAT FOOD COMMERCIAL. I KNOW, THIS MAY SOUND STUPID, BUT IT WAS A PLEASURE TO SHOW TO ALL THE PEOPLE THAT I'M NOT JUST A GIRL WHO UNDRESSES IN PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographer: Tripodski





Photographer: Tripodski



**FINALLY, WILL YOU BE COMING BACK TO
US SHORTLY AS WE CAN'T GET ENOUGH
OF YOU! YES! I WOULD LOVE TO <3**



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NANCY

*The Mes Levres
beauty is back!*





Hey Nancy! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about yourself: Hey guys! You might know me as nancyysuicide or just Nancy. I'm huge movie geek, fashion addict and makeup lover!

What was it like to work with Tripodski on this shoot? It was really easy to work with him, funny and just chilled :)

What was your favourite part of the shoot? Hmm pizza after the shoot!

What's your favourite part of your body and why? My favourite part... hmm I don't think I have one at the moment.

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? I'm constantly not happy with how I look so probably 4 or 5.





**DESCRIBE YOUR
PERFECT PHOTOSHOOT:
STRESS FREE :) AND
NOT TOO EARLY!**

Photographer: Tripodski



If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why?

It must be Victoria's Secret! I mean, I know I'm short and tattooed but this was a dreamy question!

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book? Scarlett Johanson, Rachael McAdams, Natalie Portman and Megan Fox.

What's your favourite song currently? Too dry to cry - Willis Earl Beal.





What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? Take away happiness :)

What's a guaranteed turn on for you? Manners!

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? I do exercise so much more now and eat healthy, although everyone tends to have cheat days, right? ;)

What do you like most about Elite? I do like the girls. They are super nice to each other, no bitching!

**FINALLY, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD
LIKE TO SAY TO THE ELITE READERS?
BE GOOD, BE YOURSELF, BE KIND. DON'T
JUDGE, DON'T BITCH. STAY COOL!**

Photographer: Tripodski





Small Victory

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Story

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Photographer: Jaimie Nicole

Out in the Wilderness

with

Peggy Sue



Hey PeggySue! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about yourself: Thanks for having me guys! I'm just a simple Aussie gal who loves nothing more than to Netflix, chill and hang out with my pets. Oh and I occasionally take selfies of my face and boobs.

What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? For this shoot I shot with the lovely Jaimie Nicole. I've shot with her a number of times, including my set "Sweet Nothings" on SuicideGirls! She's just moved back from living in Canada for the past two years so it was great to work with her again!

What was your favourite part of the shoot? We were shooting on a mountain bike track so quickly hiding myself when a bike rider came along was entertaining! We also saw some wallabies.

What's your favourite part of your body and why? Well I must admit, I am quite fond on my boobs. They cost me enough so I may as well enjoy them right?

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? Ah what a question! I think I look ok, but that killer personality and humour right? Haha, maybe a 7? What do you think?!

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? So many options! I think Killstar would be dope as fuck. Just imagine modelling Marilyn Manson's stuff! Yes please daddy! I really like Dolls Kill too.





**WHAT'S A GUARANTEED TURN
ON FOR YOU? I'M REALLLLLLL
INTO SEPTUM RINGS ON GUYS.
PREFERABLY STRETCHED ONES,
BUT THAT'S NOT A PREREQUISITE.**

Photographer: Jaimie Nicole







WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE ELITE READERS TO TAKE AWAY FROM YOUR PICTURES IN OUR ILLUSTRIOUS MAG? IT'S STILL SO BIZARRE TO ME THAT PEOPLE WANT TO SEE PHOTOS OF ME SO THANK YOU AND I HOPE YOU ENJOY THEM!



Photographer: Jaimie Nicole



You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? Hmm... maybe Halle Berry vs Michelle Pfeiffer complete in their Cat Woman outfits for the ultimate kitty show down! I happen to have a huge crush on Ariel Winter from Modern Family so can I just volunteer as tribute to get messy with her? Yes? Good.

What's your favourite song currently? My go to is "Black Beatles" by Rae Sremmurd right now.

Describe your perfect photoshoot: I've ALWAYS wanted to do a photo shoot in a bathtub full of milk. Can we make this happen? Please?

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? I am far from perfect! But dancing definitely helps keep me active and I've been vegetarian for about 7 years now.

What do you like most about Elite? Alllll the babes! Duh!

Photographer: Jaimie Nicole





Photographer: Jaimie Nicole





FINALLY, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO THE ELITE READERS? YES! A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHOSE TAKEN THE TIME TO READ THE INTERVIEW AND LOOK AT THE PICS! I HOPE YOU ENJOYED THEM AND HOPE YOU'LL BE SEEING ME ON ELITE AGAIN SOON!

**BROKEN BONES
HEART DRESS**

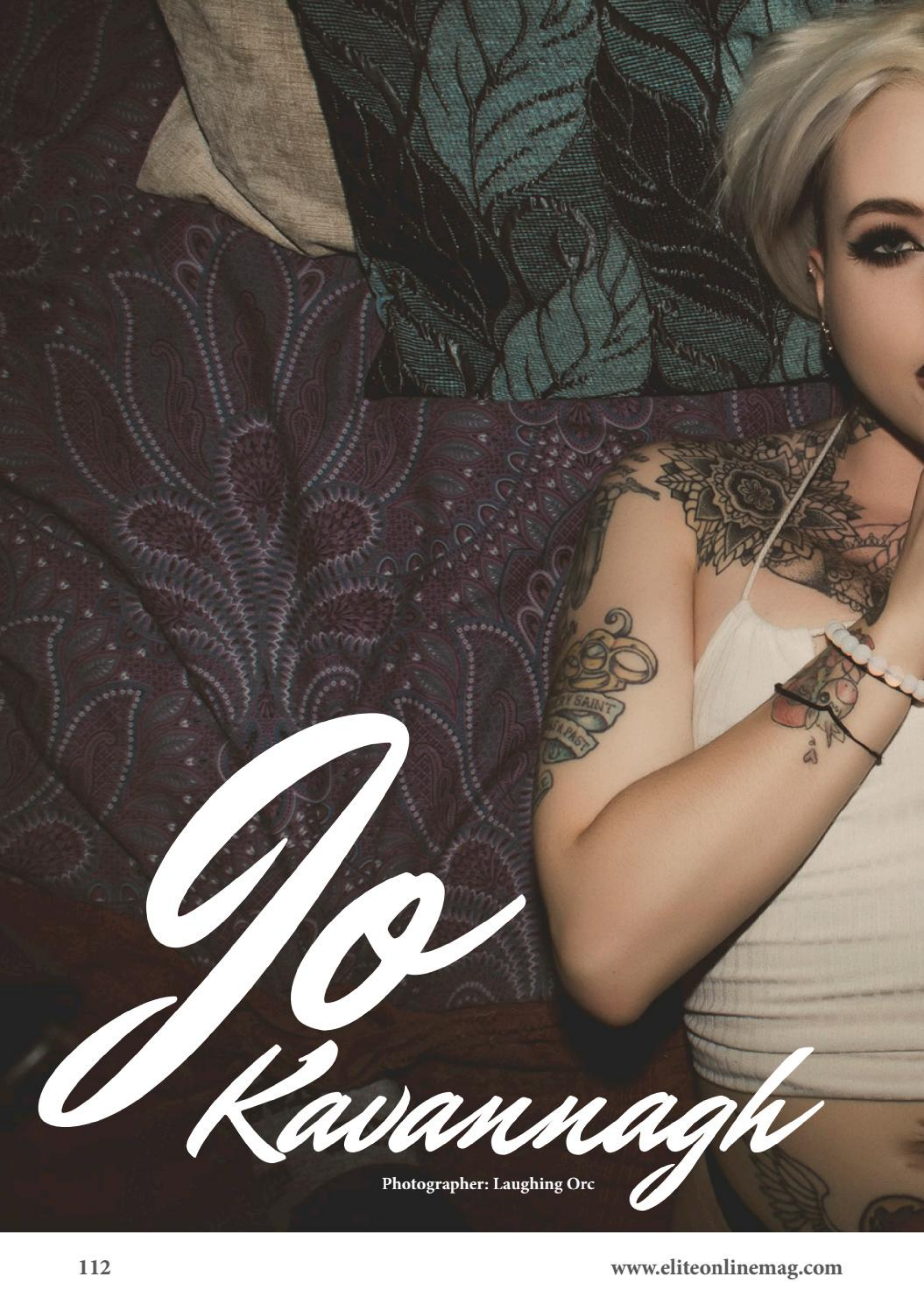




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BAD BISH RAGS

BADBISHRAGS.COM



No Kavanaugh

Photographer: Laughing Orc



Hey Jo! Welcome to Elite, what was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? Hi! I always enjoy working with James, he's a creative genius hiding behind a camera.

What was your favourite part of the shoot? Well James pulled out a bottle of JD, a man after my own heart right there.

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? That all depends on the number of drinks.

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? I'd model for T.U.K or Dr. Martens because I am obsessed and wear them on a daily basis.

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? Christina Scabbia, Taylor Momsen, Kate Beckinsale and Cassandra Peterson just because who wouldn't want to see them wrestling in jelly.

What's your favourite song currently? Currently can't stop listening to We Are Carnivores - Scottish Power. Absolute banger!

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? Lotion and tissue.

Describe your perfect photoshoot: I just really enjoy a good laugh on set at shoots.

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? Pizza and cider and if I really feel like being calorie careful I drink gin.

What do you like most about Elite? It really shows beautiful women and some serious talented photographers off in a good light.









**WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF YOUR BODY
AND WHY? I'M ALL ABOUT THE BOOTY, NO REAL
REASON JUST EVERYONE ENJOYS A BOOTY.**


Photographer: Laughing Orc

**WHAT'S A
GUARANTEED
TURN ON FOR
YOU? I LIKE
THE SUSPENSE
AND BUILD UP.**









**FINALLY, IS THERE
ANYTHING YOU WOULD
LIKE TO SAY TO THE
ELITE READERS? DOES
YOUR MAMA KNOW
YOU'RE LOOKING AT
HALF NAKED LADIES**

Photographer: Laughing Orc





BAD BISH RAGS

BADBISHRAGS.COM

RIAE

SOPHOULLA



ERICA

KESHIA

**THE
FATS**



Hi Erica, welcome to Elite! How did you enjoy the shoot? I had a blast! As always!

What was it like to work with ATOM on this shoot? SO. MUCH. FUN! He's fantastic!

What was it like to work with Keshia, Sophoulla & Riae? It was one of my favourite modeling experiences! They are all such beautiful ladies, it was hard to say goodbye!

Photographer: ATOM

SO HOW CAN A GUY
IMPRESS YOU?
BUY ME FOOD.

ERICA





What are the girls best features?
EYES! All of them <3

What's your best feature? I personally like my clavicle, most men would probably say my yabbos.

What was the funniest thing to happen at the shoot? We were shooting for the 2017 calendar for the month of October for Sophoulla and me. Well, we were shooting while the bath ran so it would be ready when we were done with that set. I dropped the red bath bomb in and let it soak. I got in the bath and it was FREEZING.

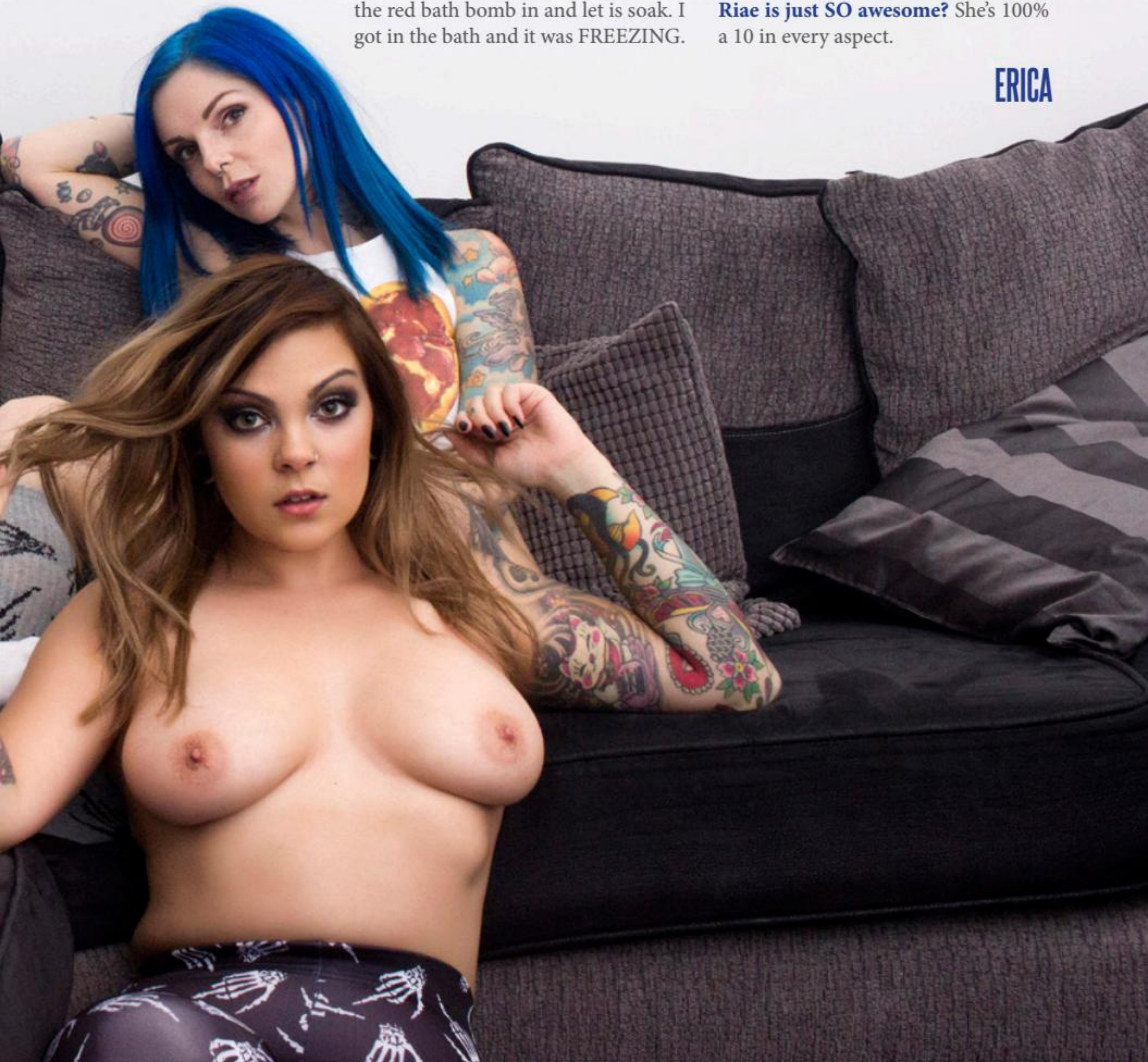
Anything for the shot right?


Outside of modelling, do you have any other passions? Outside of modeling I really enjoy reading and just being outdoors!

Who has been your favourite model of 2016? Oh damn. Riae has always been one of my favourites, because she's incredible. Meeting her just set it in stone.

Why do you think our cover girl Riae is just SO awesome? She's 100% a 10 in every aspect.

ERICA



A photograph of two women sitting on a dark couch. The woman in the foreground has long dark hair and is wearing a white crop top and black underwear. She has numerous colorful tattoos on her arms and torso. The woman behind her has bright blue hair and is also wearing a white crop top and black underwear. She has tattoos on her neck and arms. They are both looking towards the camera.

Finally, is there anything you would like to say to the Elite readers? Thanks for reading and thanks for all of your support. I hope you like my yabbos.

ERICA



Photographer: ATOM





Hi Keshia, welcome to Elite! How did you enjoy the shoot? This shoot was insanely fun with these girls!

What was it like to work with ATOM on this shoot? Awesome he's so funny (and I think he's seen more boobs than hot dinners... actually probably on par).

KESHIA

**WHAT'S YOUR
BEST FEATURE?
DEM WABS.**

What was it like to work with Erica, Sophoulla & Riae? Words can't describe how lovely these girls are. I wish they were my best friends and I could see them everyday, but we're all from completely different places, which made it so special to see them.

What are the girls best features? This is tough as they're all super hotties. I'll go for Sophie's face and boobies, Riae's tattoos and vibrant hair then Erica's killer figure please.

What was the funniest thing to happen at the shoot? The fact that I was dying to get naked with these girls so I just wore leggings and that's all the whole time :')

Photographer: ATOM





KESHIA

Outside of modelling, do you have any other passions? I love animals and work in a cat cafe!

So how can a guy impress you? I like nice, polite, honest guys that look a little scruffy round the edges!

Who has been your favourite model of 2016? I've gotta say Sophoulla is looking absolutely amazing right now! I'm a little obsessed.

Why do you think our cover girl Riae is just SO awesome? She's an Italian/Irish superstar! She knows what she wants and isn't afraid to stand out and go get it. She's actually so famous yet so humble, I admire her a lot!

Finally, is there anything you would like to say to the Elite readers? Thank you for your constant support and continued interested in little old me! Stay Kawaii bitches!





Hi Sophoulla, welcome to Elite!
How did you enjoy the shoot?
Thanks a lot! I loved it as always
thank you!

What was it like to work with
ATOM on this shoot? I've shot with
him before and once again it was
awesome!

SOPHOULLA

Photographer: ATOM







WHO HAS BEEN YOUR FAVOURITE MODEL OF 2016? KESHIA. JUST LOOK AT HER.

SOPHOULLA

What was it like to work with Keshia, Erica & Riae? I can't even begin to tell you. I was already in love with Kesh but it was my first time meeting Erica and Riae and I fell in love with them both straight away too.

What are the girls best features? Keshia's eyes, Erica's boobs and Riae's legs.

What's your best feature? My hands.

What was the funniest thing to happen at the shoot? When Erica and I were shooting and her armpit squeaked. Hilarity.

Outside of modelling, do you have any other passions? I love weed. I love learning about it in every sense, and I love using it too, of course.

So how can a guy impress you? Pets impress me. If a guy or girl had like 5 dogs I'd be thoroughly impressed.

Photographer: ATOM





SOPHOULLA

Why do you think our cover girl Riae is just SO awesome? She's funny, intelligent and loves dogs. And she has some seriously amazing ink and the most beautiful face. I could go on.

Finally, is there anything you would like to say to the Elite readers? Thank you for all your support, keep being amazing!





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REBECCA CROW

Photographer: ATOM



Hey Rebecca! Welcome back to Elite, what was it like to work with ATOM on this shoot?
Awesome! It was my first time shooting with ATOM and I'm over the moon with the images!

What was your favourite part of the shoot? Being naked, obviously haha

What's your favourite part of your body and why? Everyone always asks me this! And I really don't know. I'm pretty proud of the booty I've built this year though.

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? Ten MILLION. Jk jk.

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why?
Uhh I've pretty much worked with every brand I used to idolise as a kid. I'd love to be in a bands music video who I grew up listening to though.





What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? Boobs. Also, if you wanna do what I do then do it. Its awesome fun.





You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? Is it real jelly? Like straw berry? Can I just eat the jelly myself?

What's your favourite song currently? Changes every day. Although I've had Kanye 'Stronger' in my head for a while. Also MERRRYYYY CHRISTMAS, EVERYONE. You know the one.

What's a guaranteed turn on for you? Tacos.

Describe your perfect photoshoot: Tacos.

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? I do exercise, but obviously I travel a lot to so it's hard. So I just do it whenever I can to make me feel happy. Also, moderation. There's conflicting evidence for everything being bad for you so just be sensible yeah. Although maybe stay away from refined sugars eek.



WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT ELITE? YOU'RE SUPER CHILL, ALL THE LADIES IN IT LOVE EACH OTHER AND THERES NO NASTINESS. JUST SUPER COOL GUYS AND GALS.



FINALLY, IS THERE
ANYTHING YOU WOULD
LIKE TO SAY TO THE ELITE
READERS? EAT TACOS.
HOPE YOU HAVE A MERRY
CHRISTMAS, HAPPY
HOLIDAYS AND HAVE A
FACKING GREAT NEW
YEARRRRRRRRRR.



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DETH KULT

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Photographer: Gemma Edwards | MUA: Gavin Pickle

Natalie



Hey Natalie! Welcome to Elite, what was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? Hey! Gemma is always fun to shoot with. She's a funny chatterbox, so it's more like hanging out with your mate... who just happens to be a super talented photographer!

What was your favourite part of the shoot? I really enjoyed getting my make up done! It was the first time I'd met Gavin too. I love having a nosey through the make up bag goodies and finding out about all the best new products... we had a laugh! I definitely want to work with Gavin again.

What's your favourite part of your body and why? I get told I have good legs. And they get me from place to place.

Photographer: Gemma Edwards

**WHAT'S A GUARANTEED
TURN ON FOR YOU?
CONFIDENCE WITHOUT
ARROGANCE.**







Photographer: Gemma Edwards

YOU'RE HOSTING AN ELITE SPONSORED JELLY WRESTLING COMPETITION. WHICH FOUR CELEBRITY COMBATANTS WILL YOU BOOK AND WHY? HAHA. I DON'T KNOW... THE KARDASHIANS VS SLIPKNOT. THAT COULD BE FUNNY... IS THAT MORE THAN FOUR? PROBABLY.



WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE SONG CURRENTLY? BLACK LIGHT BURNS - LIE.





Photographer: Gemma Edwards

What do you like most about Elite? Seeing photos from other girls shoots. You know, they might have nice tats, or undies or hair colours you wanna try out.

**FINALLY, IS THERE
ANYTHING YOU
WOULD LIKE TO
SAY TO THE ELITE
READERS? ENJOY
THE PICS!**

Photographer: Gemma Edwards





On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? Haha. Well, let's just say if a guy I'm going out with says I'm anything less than a 10, he's dumped. Immediately. But sure, I have flaws, imperfections and insecurities just like everyone else.

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? Killstar. Because I'd love to work with Haris Nukem and Ashley N Joncas.

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? Sheesh! She looks nice! But, I bet she doesn't take any shit. Better not piss her off... haha! I'll keep that one sweet, yeah, I'll be on my very best behaviour!

Describe your perfect photoshoot: Edgy, arty, dark and beautiful.

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? Yoga.





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NYMPHAE

Photographer: Mike White

Hey Nymphae! What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? Mike was the first person I ever got behind the camera with, and it was a great experience. All my life I'd been very camera shy, I didn't even let my dad take photographs of me, let alone someone I didn't know! However, Mike made me feel really comfortable and confident despite my nerves. It was a great experience, and well, it must have been considering I continued modelling after that!

What was your favourite part of the shoot? Well, the whole shoot was an experience for me. It's hard to say what I enjoyed the most really, I guess doing things I wasn't used to and trying out something new, and then seeing the great pictures me and Mike could produce made me really happy!

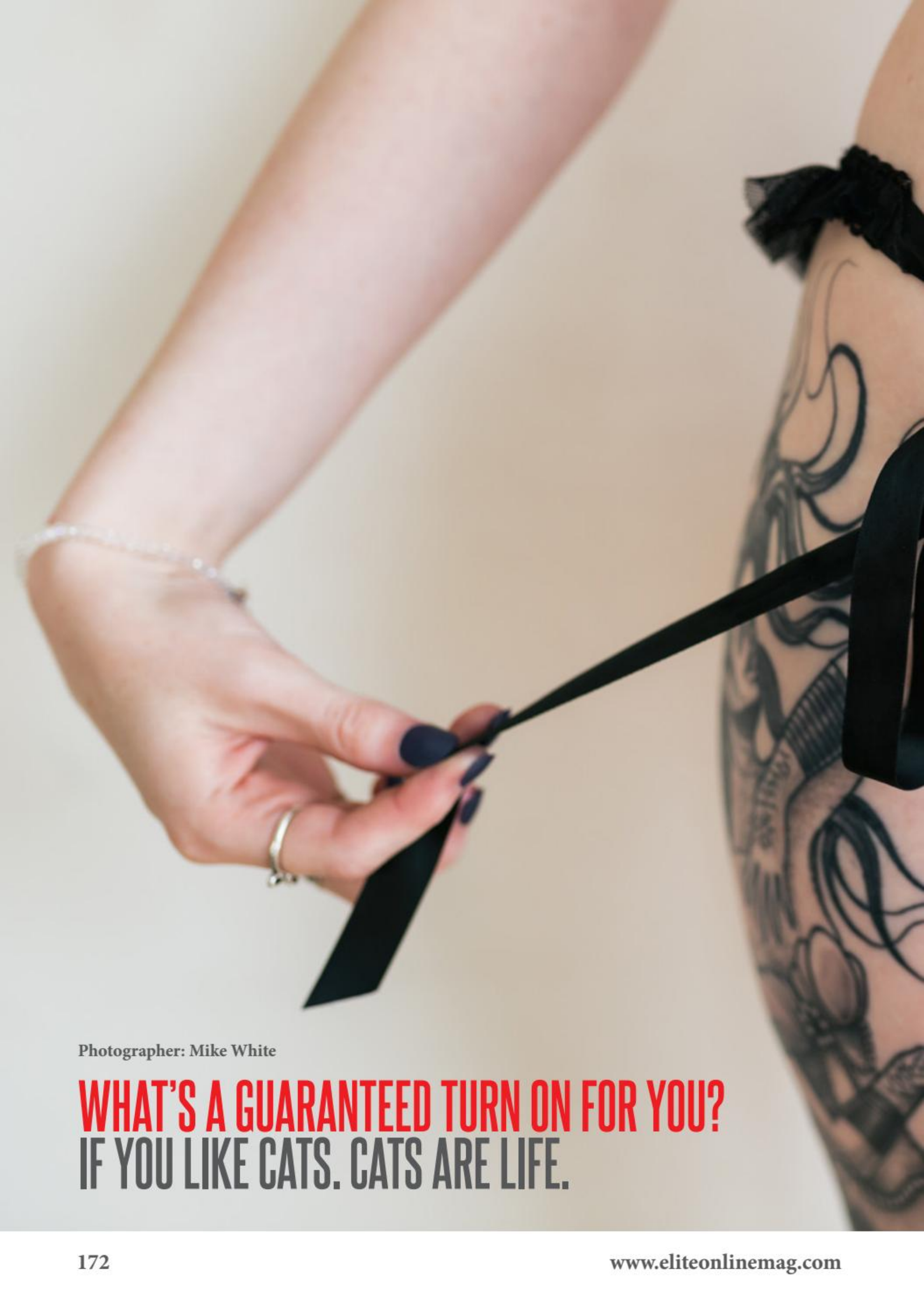
What's your favourite part of your body and why? I'd say my eyes are my favourite part of my body, although I'd definitely prefer if my eyes were green or purple, I find that when my eyes catch the light they can be really sparkly.

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? This is really hard to say, I've never found myself particular good looking, however I guess on a really good day with good make up and lighting maybe a 8 and on bad days maybe a 6? It really depends!

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? Oh this is a hard one! I'd probably have to say Askasu as their lingerie is absolutely stunning and unique, Fireflypath due to my love for fantasy and magical things and fireflypath definitely fulfils that, or Dollskill as their clothing is just simply badass!








Photographer: Mike White

WHAT'S A GUARANTEED TURN ON FOR YOU?
IF YOU LIKE CATS. CATS ARE LIFE.







What do you like most about Elite? I love how they influence girls to be themselves, rather than to follow what society could classify as what is the “social norm”. Plus you can’t go wrong with seeing lots of hot girls!

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why?

Haha, that sounds like fun! Taylor Momsen, Avril Lavigne, Ruby Rose and Miley Cyrus - think that'd be totally entertaining to watch!

What's your favourite song currently?

They're very different songs from one another, but either Ces't passi Loin by The Bunny the Bear, or Murakami by Made in Heights

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag?

You don't have to be stick skinny and tall to be beautiful. All shapes and sizes, body modifications and whatever else are stunningly beautiful too.

Describe your perfect photoshoot:

Either some fantasy styled elvish shoot where I look like I'm magical, or one in which I'm turned into some awesome Lilith style demon! Now that there would be pretty cool!

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape?

Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck?

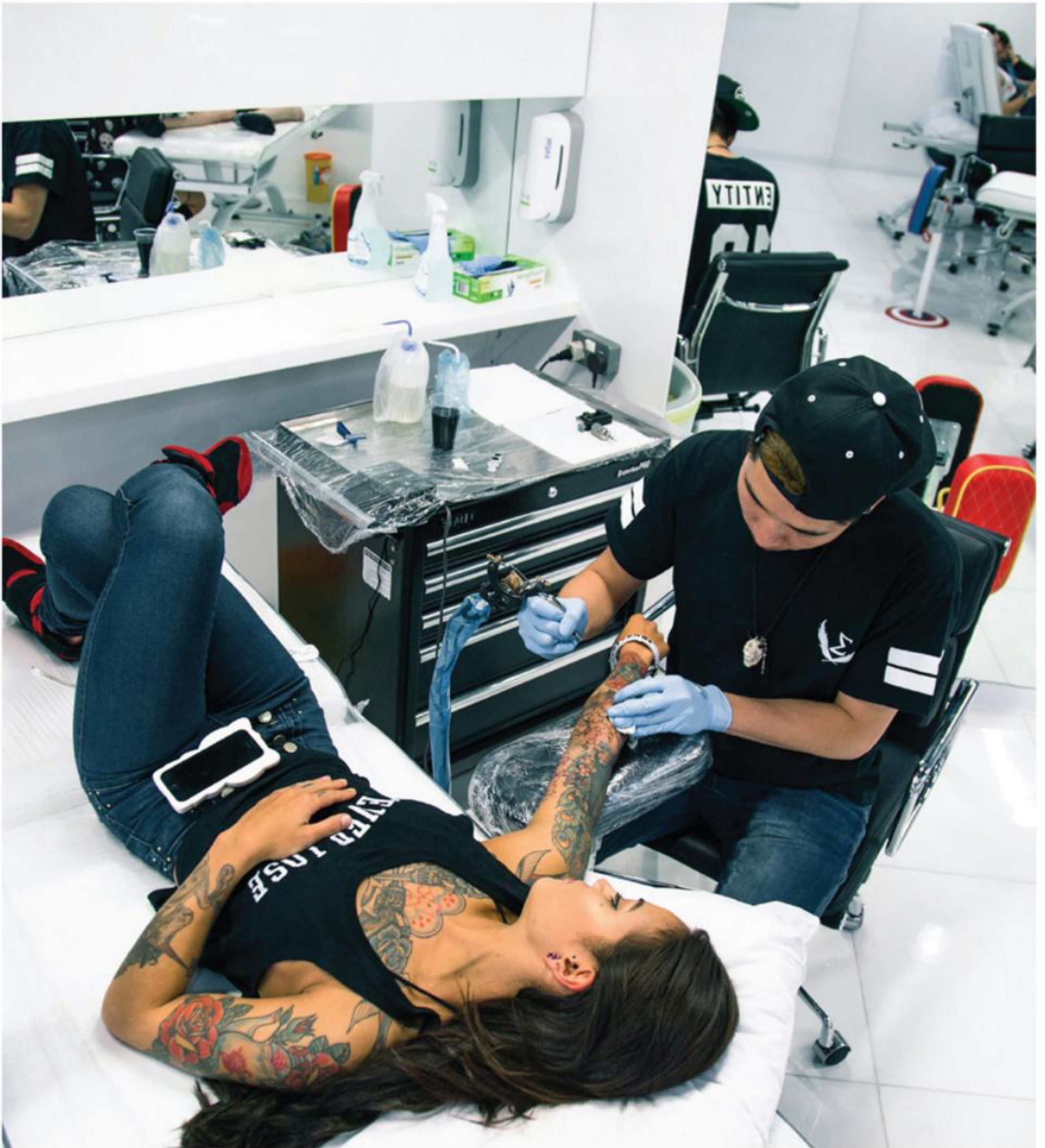
Oh gosh, I'm not in modelly perfect shape at all. I don't do exercise, nor diet or whatever really! I probably should, I honestly don't know how I'm not larger than I am!





**FINALLY, IS THERE
ANYTHING YOU WOULD
LIKE TO SAY TO THE
ELITE READERS? IF YOU
DON'T HAVE A CAT, YOU
SHOULD GET ONE NOW.**





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BRIAN FALLON & THE CROWES

SUPPORT: DEAD SWORDS, CHRIS FARREN
02 ACADEMY OXFORD
24TH NOVEMBER 2016

One of the best songwriters of our generation rolls into Oxford tonight, The Gaslight Anthem may be taking a break but Brian Fallon and his band The Crowes have been serenading and breaking hearts for the past year or so.

If you're a massive Gaslight fan and was worried about bad blood between the 4 piece then you'd be wrong because tonight's opener, Dead Swords, is Alex Rosamilia. He cuts a mysterious figure with his hood up and softly delivered vocals which gets unfortunately drowned out by his bluesy and loose guitar accompaniment. Chit chat amongst members of the audience is still fairly audible even against the drone and distortion on stage.

Chris Farren is up next and sets out to bring a more playful experience to tonight's proceedings. Looking dapper and all smiles the former Fake Problems member brings some punk enthusiasm to his set and couples it with Americana charm. Now it's not quite December yet but that doesn't stop Farren from playing some of his witty Christmas songs, luckily they're short, sharp and silly. He occasionally has those in attendance in fits of laughter especially with his 'fake applause' he uses to thank us with. A wonderful set.





BRIAN FALLON & THE CROWES

SUPPORT: DEAD SWORDS, CHRIS FARREN
O2 ACADEMY OXFORD
24TH NOVEMBER 2016



Opening up with 'Painkillers' from the album of the same name Brian Fallon & The Crowes sound magnificent right off the bat. 'Amongst Other Foolish Things' follows and this leads into Brian turning the gig into stand up comedy and story time. He goes on and on for literally about 10 minutes with no music, however this is the happiest and most engaging this reviewer has ever seen Brian after years of Gaslight shows. A rendition of The Proclaimers - 500 Miles is aired as well as Dire Straits - Romeo & Juliet, a nod to one of his favourites... and one of the most annoying songs ever committed to tape.

Goosebumps and pinch yourself moments come in the form of 'Steve McQueen' & 'Honey Magnolia,' when Brian goes solo. He reminds us of the delicacy of his voice and the tenderness at which he delivers his storyteller lyrics. After more breaks in-between songs so Brian can tell us how much he hates Thanksgiving its down to 'It's A Wonderful Life' to close out tonight and we can't think of a more fitting end.

Words & Photography by Joshua Clarke



PIERCE THE VEIL

SUPPORT: LETLIVE
02 ACADEMY NEWCASTLE
20TH NOVEMBER 2016

Since the release of *Misadventures*, a UK tour from longstanding rockers Pierce The Veil has been highly anticipated. It came finally this November with the hugely energetic Letlive. in direct support.

Letlive are somewhat of a force to be reckoned with, their stage presence is pretty unparalleled. From the moment they step out onstage, they're unstoppable, shooting the sold out crowd a vast selection from their back catalogue with an onslaught of heavy hitting riffs and the addition of seeing vocalist Jason Butler throwing himself around the stage like some kind of rag doll. Most pertinently, Butler is a wordsmith - you hear it in his lyrics - it is displayed impeccably in the way that he speaks. Even when he's cussing out the newest President of the United States, he is eloquent in speaking of the current generation and how it may effect them. Shows, however, usually aren't for politics but Letlive have always had a slight political edge and it works for them, where it wouldn't for anyone else.

That Fear Fever sees Butler throw himself into the crowd, riding the hands of those who can hold him above their heads whilst he screams out the chorus. On stage the rest of the band have room to move around recklessly, the bands signature that goes hand in hand with the fast pace of their music.

A highlight though is of, possibly their most well known track - though not a highlight for that reason - when *Muther* is played. It's opened with a speech to the men of the audience, informing them that they should respect women to the highest caliber as men would be nowhere without them. It's a strong message that seems to have gotten lost with the recent electing considering all the awful things Trump has said about women so perhaps the reminder tonight was needed. The band are then joined by Hannah Greenwood of Creeper to tackle the female harmonies of the track. The camaraderie between the bands of this tour is evident, it's delightful to see them collaborating together and so beautifully too.

Letlive end on the massive *Good Mourning, America* from their newest release 'If I'm The Devil' and as they depart the stage, you're left wondering how on earth Pierce The Veil will be able to top that.



Words & Photography by Kelly Hamilton



PIERCE THE VEIL

SUPPORT: LETLIVE
02 ACADEMY NEWCASTLE
20TH NOVEMBER 2016

Words & Photography by Kelly Hamilton





Of course, having been a band for a decade, Pierce The Veil are well versed in how to put on a damn good show. Each tour they've gotten bigger and better but this time, well it blows all other visits out of the water. What they bring is a set up fit for arenas and really, it's a surprise they haven't hit that stage yet in the way All Time Low have. Starting the show is a short cartoon film of a spaceship taking off and at the end, it's personalised to Newcastle. It's the kind of touch that most bands wouldn't consider but makes it for a more personal show, despite the room being packed with over 2,000 people.

Emerging from their own spaceship onstage, Pierce The Veil open with their newest single release Dive In. It's met with an eruption of cheers which are returned with an explosion of co2 and confetti. The colours that cascade are quite the contrast from the music that Pierce The Veil produce, they're often ones to show that the rock music they create is not synonymous with darkness and gloom. It can be vibrant and full of life, just as Pierce The Veil are.

Bulletproof Love brings a lucky fan to the stage to be serenaded by vocalist Vic Fuentes, despite how huge the band have gotten in their time together they are still very much about doing things for their fans. If that means pulling someone up so they get their own unique experience then that is something they want to do. The connection they have together is even seen at the end of the set, when the members jump down to high five and shake the hands of the audience to let them know how appreciative they are but that comes later and in the mean time Pierce The Veil still have a ton of tracks to throw out.

Soon enough the band are reaffirming the strong friendships of the tour as they are joined by Butler of Letlive for Tangled In The Great Escape. This is a track that Butler featured on for Pierce The Veil's 2012 release Collide With The Sky and to see it translated live is something quite special, pushing what it is as a studio recording to something much bigger and stronger overall.

To close the night in an encore are two incredible tracks, probably two of Pierce The Veil's best. Circles, which is a newer track from Misadventures teeters on the pop rock side of things but is a juggernaut when played live. It switches the feel slightly, it seems like an arena song and as the audience can't seem to stand still through it you can't help but imagine the reaction it would gain in an arena setting. Last, but certainly not least, is King For A Day - if you know of Pierce The Veil, chances are you know this track. It's hard to hear vocalist Vic Fuentes over the voices of the crowd for this last effort to be heard, to push all the remaining energy they have out to create the most incredible atmosphere. As the last of the confetti and the co2 canons fire off, the end of King For A Day finally comes and it would be saddening to see the end if this were any other show but all that can be seen on the faces of everyone, band and fans alike, is an expression of pure elation.

This was the perfect kind of tour, filled with truly talented acts who bounce off one another so naturally, it's just a shame really that it wasn't in a bigger setting - where it really did deserve to be. Perhaps next time around we'll finally see Pierce The Veil in the arenas they are destined to headline, with high hopes that the lineup will be as killer as this one has been.



**SUPPORT: LIKE A STORM, GOJIRA & VOLBEAT
GENTING ARENA (NEC), BIRMINGHAM
27TH NOVEMBER 2016**

ALTERBRIDGE

Words by Kristofer Billingham
Photography by Carl Battams



After the huge success of their headline tour with 'Shinedown' and 'Halestorm' back in 2013, American hard-rock band 'Alterbridge' were back in the UK carrying an enormous reputation amongst fellow musicians and fans alike. After releasing their fifth studio album 'The Last Hero' back in October, there was a huge sense of excitement for the band's return to the UK, and in particular the home of metal Birmingham. The support lineup consisted of New Zealand rockers 'Like A Storm', French metal titans 'Gojira' and Danish rockers 'Volbeat'.

First up were 'Like A Storm' who have enjoyed touring alongside Alterbridge on various tours across America, and around the world. They bring a no-nonsense approach to a rock band set, and they certainly set the pace for the night ahead. The band played a short, but very sweet set of tracks with highlights such as 'Never Surrender', 'Love The Way You Hate Me', and their cover of the AC/DC classic 'TNT'. The band provided a very accomplished performance, and there is certainly a lot more to come from these guys in the future!

Up next were the hugely popular 'Gojira' bringing a European twist with their French heavy metal madness. With the recent release of their new album 'Magma', this was the ideal platform for the band to showcase tracks from this new record, and also using it as an excuse to play some of their old classics for their hardcore fans! From the get go, the pure intensity of the guitar shredding, riffs, and insanely powerful drum rhythms injected the Genting Arena with a new level of strength and power, and certainly set the room alight! Gojira treated us to a 7-track set list, including 'Toxic Garbage Island', 'Stranded' and 'Vacuity', and they certainly showed everyone in Birmingham why they are one of the heavyweights in metal music at the moment!

It was now time for the huge force from Denmark, also known as 'Volbeat'; since hitting the Music scene back in 2001, Volbeat have developed a huge reputation across Europe after featuring at some of the biggest festivals like Wacken and Rock Am Ring. After releasing their 6th studio album 'Seal The Deal And Let's Boogie' earlier this year, the band like Gojira, also had the perfect chance to showcase their new material and play some of their huge anthems to the Birmingham crowd. The band started with one of their new tracks 'The Devil's Bleeding Crown', and from the outset, everyone enjoyed the classic Volbeat rock and roll rhythms and vibes. Fans got to enjoy 11 tracks in total, with songs such as 'Lola Montez', 'For Evigt', and 'Seal The Deal'. The band also invited fans onto the stage with them to enjoy their closing track 'Still Counting' which was a fantastic gesture in its own right!

After over 2 hours of fantastic supporting music, it was now time for the headline act 'Alterbridge'; with the world-renowned front man in Myles Kennedy and guitar maestro Mark Tremonti, Alterbridge have been of the most successful and influential rock bands of the 21st century. On the night of Myles Kennedy's 47th birthday, fans could celebrate the night with the band on what was a very special night of the bands' catalogue of rock anthems. Fans were treated to a huge 15-track set list, and 2-track Encore with hits such as 'Addicted To Pain', 'My Champion', 'Metalingus' and 'Rise Today'. The consistency in delivery throughout this huge set was very heartwarming, and you could feel the delight amongst every member of the Birmingham audience knowing that they had just witnessed something special. Alterbridge definitely showed why they are the cream of the crop in rock and roll today!

Overall, this was a highly entertaining and heartfelt evening in Birmingham, and a real showcase of the global talent that the Music industry has to offer. Let's hope that all bands are here to stay for a long time to come!

Words by Kristofer Billingham | Photography by Carl Battams



**SUPPORT: LIKE A STORM, GOJIRA & VOLBEAT
GENTING ARENA (NEC), BIRMINGHAM
27TH NOVEMBER 2016**

ALTERBRIDGE



Since they stormed onto the Music scene in 2012, American hardcore punk quartet 'Beartooth' certainly revamped the way that hardcore music is identified and observed in many ways. After supporting huge bands such as 'Pierce The Veil', 'Sleeping With Sirens' and 'Don Broco', this was their first major headline tour of the UK, and you could feel that something very special was on the cards! The support acts were UK's own pop-punk outfit 'Trash Boat', and American rockers 'Vanna'.

First up were 'Trash Boat' who are flying the flag for the UK in the new breed of pop-punk bands. The band offer a no holds barred approach with their highly energetic rhythms and raw vocal power from front man Tobi Duncan. Despite the fact that Trash Boat have yet to release a full studio album, the band showcased a set list of 9 tracks including 'Tring Quarry', 'Catharsis' and 'Stranger' which was a monumental effort from the newbies. There is a definitely a lot more to come from these guys, who hinted a UK headline tour next January/February!

Headline support came from Boston post-hardcore outfit 'Vanna' who have yet to enjoy a lot of exposure to UK and in particular Birmingham crowds despite been on the scene since 2004. From the first note, front man Davey Muise provided an amazing level of vocal talent, and regularly expressed his gratitude to the crowd. The band offered a few of their new tracks, as well as old including 'Void', 'Toxic Pretender' and 'Diggin'. The level of passion and heart thrown into every bar of these tracks was something quite remarkable, and definitely one of the best performances I have ever seen over the years! Go and check out these guys if you haven't already!

After quite a lengthy wait, 'Beartooth' took to the stage to a huge ovation from the crowd; this band have been touring extensively all over the world and at some of the most recognisable festivals, but this was certainly their biggest series of dates to date. Fronted by the highly acclaimed Caleb Shomo, Beartooth are one of the most electrifying bands on the Music circuit, and boy did they deliver a performance to remember in Birmingham! Every part of their 14-track set list delivered levels of intensity that you didn't think were possible, and this was a remarkable sight to see. Fans enjoyed 'Burnout', 'Fair Weather Friend', 'In Between' and 'Body Bag' just to name a few. All I can say is, bring on the next UK tour!

After a highly energetic, and hugely entertaining night of intense musical madness in Birmingham, it's safe to say that Beartooth, Vanna and Trash Boat have left their mark, and have set the bar high in the hardcore genre in the Music industry!

Words by Kristofer Billingham

Photography by Carl Battams

SUPPORT: TRASH BOAT & VANNA

O2 INSTITUTE BIRMINGHAM

11TH DECEMBER 2016

BEARTOOTH

TOOTH



BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE

SUPPORT: CANE HILL & KILLSWITCH ENGAGE

02 ACADEMY, BIRMINGHAM

6TH DECEMBER 2016

With nearly 20 years of worldwide experience, Welsh metal giants 'Bullet For My Valentine' are arguable one of the greatest bands to come out of the UK not just in the Metal genre, but across all musical spectrums. After touring for nearly 2 years, Bullet were finishing their marathon of dates in the UK, and also playing their highly acclaimed 'The Poison' album on a few very special nights across the country. With 2 monumental support acts in 'Cane Hill' and 'Killswitch Engage' onboard, this was set to be one of the box office tours of the year in the musical calendar!

Arriving to the scene in 2011, American heavy metal outfit 'Cane Hill' have rapidly established themselves as one of the most defining metal bands in the 21st century. Formed in New Orleans, Louisiana, Cane Hill deliver old school riffs and rhythms which have enticed metal heads and music fans around the globe in a big way. After releasing their debut studio album 'Smile' back in July, the band had the perfect opportunity to show off their new material to fans. Fans were treated to an 8-track set list including 'True Love', 'St. Veronica' and 'Time Bomb', and every member of the Birmingham audience was left screaming for more by the end of this tremendous set!

It was now time for the main support act, and it could be no other but 'Killswitch Engage'; the American metal core favourites from Westfield, Massachusetts have had a very bouncy ride over the last few years with various members coming and going, but with the original vocalist Jesse Leach returning to the band in 2012 replacing Howard Jones, this was the first outing in the UK that the band had since. Like Bullet For My Valentine, Killswitch Engage have a very old-school approach when it comes to their songs and albums, and this is why they have such a cult fan base. From the outset, the spellbinding vocals from Jesse combined with the majestic guitar riffs and drum rhythms pitched a perfect combination for an accomplished set of new and old Killswitch hits. Fans got to enjoy a nice 12-track set list including 'Rose Of Sharyn', 'My Last Serenade' and 'My Curse', and this had definitely warmed every member of the audience up if it hadn't already!

After a lengthy break, the Welsh metal veterans 'Bullet For My Valentine' took to the stage after an opening of the Motorhead classic 'Ace Of Spades' to a huge reception from the audience. There was high anticipation leading to the bands' return to the UK, especially as it was nearly 3 years since the band had last headlined in the UK with 'Young Guns' and 'Asking Alexandria'. As Michael 'Moose' Thomas is taking a break to look after his newborn baby, AxeWound drummer Jason Bowld was filling in on the whole tour.



Words by Kristofer Billingham
Photography by Carl Battams



BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE

SUPPORT: CANE HILL & KILLSWITCH ENGAGE
O2 ACADEMY, BIRMINGHAM
6TH DECEMBER 2016





The set started all guns blazing with the introduction and opening track from their latest album *Venom 'No Way Out'* which set the venue alight to say the least! It was certainly a revival of childhood's for most fans in the 02 Academy as Bullet played a lot of their old classic anthems from 'Hearts Burst Into Fire' to 'Your Betrayal'. Mesmerising guitar riffs from front man Matt Tuck and lead guitarist Michael Paget showed why Bullet For My Valentine have still got what it takes to play long, intensive metal sets to big audiences worldwide! The 3-track Encore of 'Tears Don't Fall', 'Waking The Demon' and their new single 'Don't Need You' was definitely the pinnacle of the whole evening for all hardcore Bullet fans!

After a nostalgic evening in Birmingham, fans were left refreshed after enjoying a night of raw, metal mania, and knowing that sometimes old is best in the Music industry!

Words by Kristofer Billingham
Photography by Carl Battams



THE AMITY AFFLICTION

**SUPPORT: WAGE WAR, STRAY FROM THE PATH & NORTHLANE
02 INSTITUTE, BIRMINGHAM
9TH DECEMBER 2016**

Forming in 2003, Australian metal core band 'The Amity Affliction' were slow starters in the Music industry, but have really come to light over the last 2 to 3 years. After touring extensively across Europe and the rest of the world, it was time for the band to storm into the UK bringing a lot of new material along with older favourites. Support came from some of the biggest acts in the hardcore/metal core genres in 'Wage War', 'Stray From The Path' and 'Northlane'.

First on the bill were the highly acclaimed Florida metal core titans 'Wage War'; after only releasing their hard-hitting debut album 'Blueprints' under Fearless Records last year, Wage War have been a major force to be reckoned with in the hardcore/metal core scene since their inception into the industry back in 2010. From the outset, Briton Bond and co. released an extreme amount of energy and intensity that was very pleasing to the eyes as well as the ears. The band gave us a small, yet more than entertaining 6-track set list with hits such as 'Alive', 'The River' and 'Youngblood', and the band certainly left their mark on the Institute stage in a big way!

Up next were the Long Island metal core veterans 'Stray From The Path' who already have 15 years' experience under their belts touring with the likes of 'Architects', 'Counterparts' and 'Norma Jean'. With an ever-growing back catalogue currently at 7 full-length studio albums, what were the band going to offer to the Birmingham crowd? The answer is simple; TOTAL METAL CARNAGE! From the get go, the band delivered high octane musical riffs and rhythms that were truly outstanding, and they had the audience moshing and bouncing like it was their last gig on earth! Fans got to enjoy a 9-track set list with some fantastic tracks such as 'Black Friday', 'The House Always Win', and 'First World Problem Child', and you could tell that the bands experience had helped them to mature into a well-accomplished metal core unit.

It was now time for the headline support act all

the way from Sydney, Australia 'Northlane'; if you thought that this night could not get any better than think again! They might have only formed in 2009, but this band have grown an incredible reputation at a very rapid rate, and fans simply can't seem to get enough of Northlane at the moment! Fronted by Marcus Bridge, this group of Aussies certainly know how to produce some magical tracks with mesmerising stories attached to them. There was a mood in the room that is hard to put into words, but you could feel that everyone was moved in a very special and unique way. Northlane also treated everybody to a 9-track set list which included tracks such as 'Leech', 'Masquerade' and 'Obelisk', and the band portrayed what can only be described as a very honest and heart-warming set of metal core music.

It was now time for the main event; 'The Amity Affliction' also from the land down in Queensland, Australia have been one of the pinnacle bands in the metal core genre since arriving on the scene back in 2013. Even though they found it difficult to make their mark to begin with, they are now blowing audiences away worldwide, and showing why they are one of the best metal core bands on the planet! Amity released their 5th studio album 'This Could Be Heartbreak' back in August, and this tour was the platform to showcase their new material, as well as offering hardcore fans some of their older tracks.

From the opening track of the set 'I Bring The Weather With Me', front man Joel Birch had the audience gripped in a chasm of metal harmony, and the atmosphere was extremely inspiring and utterly entertaining with crowd members flying over the barriers more than the security staff were prepared for! With a 10 track main set list, along with a 3-track encore, fans enjoyed a fantastic selection of Amity's catalogue such as 'Lost & Fading', 'All Fucked Up', 'Fight My Regret', and 'Don't Lean On Me', and the band delivered a quite simply remarkable performance in Birmingham!

Overall, this show offered a solid delivery of metal and hardcore music in Birmingham, and every band added their unique mark to make the overall night a special experience for fans and critics alike!

Words by Kristofer Billingham

Photography by Carl Battams





COCKNEY REJECTS
LIFE OF AGONY
JUDGE
IGNITE
NO TURNING BACK
DISCHARGE
DEAD SWANS
MADBALL
LIFELESS
DISCIPLINE
WORLD EATER
ANGEL CREW
COLDBURN
STRENGTH APPROACH
18 MILES
PADDY AND THE RATS

KLOKGEBOUW, EINDHOVEN, NETHERLANDS

19TH NOVEMBER 2016

THE SOUND OF REVOLUTION

Words by Jonathan Miller & Photography by Tanguy Maes



BANDS

EVOLUTION

Today, the Klokegbouw venue in Eindhoven welcomes people from all over to the one-day punk and hardcore festival, The Sound of Revolution. With sixteen bands playing consecutively across two different stages, people have traveled from far and wide to be a part of it.

REVOLUTION STAGE:

Courtesy of Ignite frontman, Zoli, Hungary's Paddy and The Rats open up the main stage (aka the Revolution Stage) with some folk-punk. Armed with instruments such as accordion, banjo and fiddle and dressed in naval/pirate/old fashioned attire, the band certainly look interesting. The music comes off like a mix between the celtic-punk sounds of Flogging Molly and the more folk-metal stylings of Skyclad. With attendees still flowing in, most people seem to be here out of curiosity and maybe even a little out of respect. It might not be what they expected from this line-up but they are at least a nice warm up for the rest of the day.

Strength Approach from Rome, Italy, take the main stage next. With a sound similar to Madball and Sick Of It All, they could easily be mistaken for hailing from New York. They've got the same groove and even similar riffs that make them sound a bit too familiar. Nevertheless, it's still good solid hardcore. The crowd slowly warms up to them as some movement ensues later on in the set but it's still not the sort of attendance and response one would expect for a band who has been together for almost 20 years.

Belgian/Dutch band, Angel Crew, return to the stage with new drummer Jonas (Pro-Pain/Resistance) on the back of their new release, XVI. With two hardcore vocalists and a band of long haired metallers, Angel Crew are both aesthetically and musically interesting. As the band plays a set full of songs both old and new, their unique sound is most noticeable on Bring Down The World, which gets fans dancing and singing along with guitarist, Ross, on its catchy melodic chorus. The bands' interaction, including shout-outs to other bands and their family, add a warm and personal touch to the performance, making it even more enjoyable.

Local legends, Discipline, are the first of only two Oi! bands on today's bill. Playing an assortment of their classics and some songs of the new Stake Your Claim album, they get a good reception from both skinheads and hardcore kids alike. The beer really starts to fly about the place when they get to Everywhere We Go, their cover of Cock Sparrer's Running Riot and the raucous Hooligan's Heaven. With frontman, Merijn, in classic boots and braces, coming down into the crowd for a sing-along at the end of the set, this was the right sort of dose of punk fun that every festival needs.

KLOKGEBOUW, EINDHOVEN, NETHERLANDS
19TH NOVEMBER 2016

THE SOUND OF REVOLUTION



Amidst the smoke screen and blood red lighting, New York hardcore tough guys, Madball, arrive on stage and are prepared for action. Like Discipline, Madball manage to treat their fans to a mixture of oldies like the stomping Smell The Bacon and the thrashy Get Out, newer tracks like the empowering DNA and the sing-along punk anthem Doc Marten Stomp and classics such as the aggressive Set It Off and the ever-memorable Pride (Times Are Changing). With vocalist Freddy, bassist Jorge and guitarist "Mitts" absolutely owning the stage and drummer Justin holding his own in the background, the band's musical prowess and overall presence are a joy to behold and gets everybody jumping.

Despite being the most long-lived band on the bill, fathers of the "D-Beat" genre and an influence on many a punk, metal and hardcore band, Discharge do not quite get the turn out one expects. Maybe die-hard Discharge fans weren't impressed with the rest of the line-up that it didn't seem worth coming. Whatever the reason, there are at least a lot of bystanders but only a small area of people near the front running amok to the no-nonsense thrashings of classics like Hear Nothing, See Nothing, Say Nothing and Never Again. Due to having to play quite fast (and maybe also because of their age), the band are pretty static while performing. Luckily, singer J.J. Has enough energy to roam about the stage and get spectators riled up. Although each song is pretty repetitive and similar in sound and structure, Discharge get respect for being innovators of their time and still doing what they do over 35 years on.

With "A War Against You" being one of the most exciting releases of the year, Ignite are welcomed with great cheer. The band arrive on stage to a playback of British comedian Jonathan Pie's rant on the US Presidential win, setting the political tone for the set. Whether politically minded or not, the heaving crowd go crazy as the Orange County band supply them with their iconic melodic hardcore punk. The set mainly consists of songs from the latest album and its predecessor, with only Veteran and Embrace for the "old school" fans. When frontman, Zoli, isn't roaming the stage and using his fantastic, almost operatic vocal range, he interacts a lot with the crowd. As well as showing his admiration for Life Of Agony singer, Mina Caputo, and her amazing voice, he gets close to veering off on political and sociological rants. Luckily, he doesn't overdo it and him and the rest of the band put on a great show. Know Your History, My Judgement Day and The Bleeding are the most well received. Even with a sloppy performance of their Sunday Bloody Sunday (U2) cover and the absence of tracks like Fill In The Blanks, Who Sold Out Now and the new album's standout track, Alive, the sea of heads in

the crowd never stops moving.

For many, this is the first time seeing New York's Life Of Agony with Mina, who gets the majority of the cheers and applause as the band arrive on stage. During their set, they satisfy every LOA fan in the house by practically playing all the hits; a lot from the legendary River Runs Red debut. Mina's presence and voice are both haunting and enchanting as she glides about the stage and down to the crowd belting out such personal songs as This Time, Other Side Of The River and Lost At 22. Guitarist Joey and bassist Alan are not only energetic and enthusiastic in their performance but they also do a lot of the main crowd interaction, getting the crowd fired up and praising Mina on being a "beautiful free spirit". Along with drummer Sal, the grooves are solid throughout, with Methods of Groove and My Eyes especially making feet move and bodies jump. Mixing different elements of metal, hardcore and even Type O Negative style gothic themes, Life Of Agony are innovators who are still relevant and the crowd reaction today proves that.

TRUE SPIRIT STAGE:

Compared to the Revolution Stage, the True Spirit stage is much smaller and in a much smaller hall. Opening on the stage, 18 Miles from Amsterdam play their angry metallic hardcore a la Stick To Your Guns and Soulground to a sparse crowd. Being immediately after Paddy and The Rats, people are still coming in at this point. Their performance today doesn't have the same bite as on record. The odd beatdown and guitar melody creeps in now and again but it's mostly a wall of fuzz. This could be technical issues or just the way they decided to play but it makes it hard to absorb anything.

Coldburn from Leipzig, Germany, are next on stage, delivering some groovy hardcore (e.g. Expire, Turnstile etc.) with added slow, low-tuned parts. There's quite a lot of movement and energy on stage which rubs off on the crowd. The frontman has a similar presence to Eddie Sutton (Leeway); just the way he's dressed and how he controls the stage. Their grooves, their 2-step parts and their beatdowns all work seamlessly together, making these guys an interesting band to check out.

From hereon in, the hall fills up quite quickly. With the addition of pillars and the stage being more central than spanning the width of the hall, most sets are hard to fully witness.

World Eater from Saarbrücken, Germany, may have had some sound issues to start as the guitars sounded a bit

KLOKGEBOUW, EINDHOVEN, NETHERLANDS
19TH NOVEMBER 2016

THE SOUND OF REVOLUTION



too quiet. That seems to sort itself out later as their heavier take on the Warzone/Judge New York sound becomes more clear. The epic storming intro and overall intensity of their self-titled track is the set's highlight, resulting in some spin kicks and dancing on the crowd floor. Their cover of As One (Warzone) sees crowd members getting involved on the mic. They might not quite be doing anything groundbreaking but they are a tight band and have a fun vibe about them.



For New Jersey's Lifeless, the hall is absolutely packed. That said, a good portion of it is the massive circle near the front which is likely being used for "ninja action". Taking influences from the likes of Merauder and even Crowbar, Lifeless play crushingly slow hardcore that makes you want to punch things. For this show and the rest of the band's tour, they are joined by friend Mike Ledet (Paid In Full/Choose Your Weapon..) on stand-in vocal duties. He controls both the mic and the crowd as if this was his full-time gig.



Being one of the most popular bands to come out of the UK, Dead Swans' comeback this year was quite exciting for many. Today, the boys absolutely tear it up on stage, playing with full force and vocalist, Nick, shouting at the top of his lungs. As great as their metallic-tinged aggressive hardcore is, the vocals are nothing special and make them sound a tad generic. Only a few people are making use of the "circle" while everyone else just stands around, either due to disinterest or purely because the performance is more captivating to watch.



Being Dutch hardcore legends, No Turning Back have a full house. Although they have a huge fan base, the band have a similar problem to Strength Approach that they sound just a little bit too similar to New York bands such as Madball and Terror. They still play great hardcore, like the invigorating Rise Up, the crushing Destination Unknown and the unifying True Love, all of which get the crowd moving. It is a shame that they shy away from doing their earlier work but it shows that they take pride in the progress they have made.



Many of the bands and fans here today may not be who and where they are if it wasn't for the likes of Judge. Even if they got into hardcore through Sick Of It All or Madball, Judge are to thank for those bands. Whether straight edge or not, they wrote anthems for a generation and paved the way for others. This is proven by the amount of those filling up the floor right to the front of the stage. Singer, Mike (Ferraro), is centre of attention, holding the mic out every time someone wished to sing along. They practically play their greatest hits of hardcore punk anthems like The Storm, New York Crew and Where It Went, causing people to pile on top of one another and stage diving galore. They top things off with their famous cover of Warriors by Blitz. This helps show British punk's influence on the New York hardcore scene and acts as a nice lead to the following act.

The honour of final act for the whole event goes to 70s Oi punk rockers, Cockney Rejects. Singer Jeff (aka Stinky Turner) doesn't shy away from being as British as possible, using slang and his infamous "Oi, Oi". As the band plays through songs like We Are The Firm, I'm Not A Fool and Bad Man, the classic punk sounds get people in a jolly mood. Jeff is absolutely full of life on stage, doing some shadow boxing-style dancing every so often. With the crowd singing along to most songs, it's the football anthem I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles that really gets everyone going by the end. They may be overshadowed by the legacies of Cock Sparrer and Sham 69, but their live performance proves that Cockney Rejects have still got it and are not to be overlooked.



Words by Jonathan Miller & Photography by Tanguy Maes



COUNTERPARTS

After 4 albums, 2 ep's and coming up to 10 years of being a band; Elite caught up with Brendan Murphy, lead singer of Canada's Counterparts on the first stop of their UK tour in Southampton and discussed all things tour.

This is your first UK show of the tour, what were you guys expecting from the UK crowds and what are you looking forward to doing?

B - The UK is usually like our spot. So every time we're on a tour over here we always look forward to, y'know it's like get me on that ferry or the tunnel or whatever it is that gets us to the UK cause this is like for whatever reason you guys like us here so y'know we'll always be around. We'll always be in the UK. I love the UK.

So you guys have been around since 2007. Is there anything fans can expect from you guys as a 10 year anniversary next year?

B - There's not gonna be like a 10 year anniversary like I don't think there's going to be a ten year tour. I'll probably post like a stock image of a birthday party and

say, "thanks for caring for ten years, I don't know why you do but that's sick." But yeah we're going to go in the studio to write and record everything in the New Year, so say summer/fall there could be new music. I will say by this time next year our record will have been out for a couple of months. I look forward to that, hopefully it doesn't suck! We'll try and I'll give it my hardest. I'm not worried though so nobody else should be.

So this tour is a co-headliner with Expire and it's the last time they'll be playing in the UK. How does it feel to be part of this tour with that knowledge?

B - It's awesome! Those guys are great. We met them for the first time a couple of years ago in Japan and we just like, got to the airport and we were like, "oh, guess we're chilling with Expire now for a couple days" and since then we've been pretty close with them. The fact that this ended up working out and it's their final tour over here is great. After this we all go home for Christmas then we're heading out to Australia then back out to Japan with Expire so it's cool that we got a couple of opportunities to tour with them for the last time and see them off. I love those guys and everyone in that band is awesome.

I'm glad that we met them, without them we wouldn't get to do this it's awesome.

Counterparts have been touring relentlessly for the past year or so and well into next year. What have been your favourite places you've visited on your travels?

We usually prefer North American stuff as it's always cool. Just because it's like it is close to home and sometimes it's not. It's where I think we do the best. My favourite place to go is Australia I'm really looking forward to going back there and back to Japan too. I mean the UK too, like every time we come here we always look forward to it. But I'm definitely looking forward to going back to Australia but that's more of a self-thing. The shows are awesome too but I get to miss Canadian Winter and just be in Australian Summer so that right there is just great. We planned this right, we're going in January, so it's like ok I'll see snow for a couple of weeks, then I'll be locked in the studio for a couple of weeks then we're off to Australia. I just wanna stay warm and try not to be around snow so much so it's really cool we get to go somewhere where it's gonna be hot as hell for the time that we're there and I'm looking forward to it.

Any crazy tour stories from the last tour?

B - Not so much. It's nothing crazy it's just kinda what you would expect. Specifically with this tour, me personally I've been friends with everybody in this package for a while now and we all sleep a foot from each other and we're all on this bus together. At times it can get a little rowdy and usually we gamble a lot and a couple of us play a lot of magic. Our tour manager got blessed in Nirvana and a lot of people had their shirts off last night but it's nothing particularly crazy however it can get a little bit out of hand but I love it. I would say I prefer it happening here on the bus than happening in a van because at least if I'm over it I can upstairs in a van I'm just kinda stuck.

So you've toured with loads of big metalcore names like Parkway Drive and Architects to name a few. What kind of feedback would you say you get from the hardcore community when you tour with these sort of acts?

B - I mean I would consider us more of a metalcore band than a hardcore band to begin with. I think that when we first started we trying to go for that carrier, killing dream with a little splash of metalcore and hardcore wasn't extremely receptive to it. Which is fine, people are allowed to like what they want. But as

soon as we announced that tour with Parkway Drive and We Came As Romans we saw the comments and people being like "oh what the hell, you guys are going out with those bands" but in my mind I've gotten pretty good at ignoring stupid comments.

To begin with that was definitely weird though because well if you like our band and we're suddenly given this shot to play in front of like...for example, with the Parkway Drive tour I used to ask every night who's seeing us for the first time and at least 1000 arms would go up and it's like cool, this is sick and that means that if we were to do a headliner and 50 of those 1000 that put their hands up come to the headline show it just means that the band is gonna be able to be a band longer.

We don't compromise what we do and we may be the odd band out on the bill on a lot of tours we do but in my mind it's like well if you wanna listen to the same 5 bands and like the same 1 genre you can do that but I love doing the mixed bill. Some of my favourite tours we've done we've gone out with Pop Punk bands. It's cool and it's refreshing and it reminds of back home in the mid-late 2000's in Ontario. Every night there would be some Deathcore band, then a Hardcore band and then a Pop Punk band would play; it was cool because everyone just did their own thing and that's when local shows would have like 300-400 kids at them. That always gets me excited because it's like, hey we're gonna be the weird band! Let us just go do our thing, do what we do and if people like it: sick. If people hate it then like: whatever, I still have fun. If you're miserable go outside I'll just keep doing my shit and hanging out so.

So you were talking about the Music scene in Ontario what was that like?

B- Back in the day the scene in Ontario used to be crazy. It's not what it was but like it was worse. There was actually a time when it was pretty rough and it just happened to coincide with when we were able to tour which was kind of a bummer. Cause it was like, "hey we're finally done with high school! We can tour now!" this was in like 2009-2010 and it was like there were no shows happening so we were like, "oh ok I guess we'll go to the US then and do that" I guess it kinda forced us to go off and do our own thing and make money for ourselves in other places. What I think is cool is that from that people back home started to miss us a little bit so we would come through and play more shows and luckily the scene got back to the way it was.

Words by Sam Taylor | Photo by Ben Lemoual

2016 ALBUM OF THE YEAR

Well, that's it. 2016 is nearly over and it's safe to say we've had one of the best years for music this millennium!

Little spoiler alert, in a year where we've had new albums from Metallica, Korn, Blink 182, Green Day and Red Hot Chili Peppers, and for none of those to make our top 5 lists is absolutely astounding. A solid round of applause to the alternative music scene and all of the bands we are about to mention.

This is our approach. Each of our journalists has compiled a list of their top 5 albums of the year and they've written a little piece about why each album has had such a big impact on them.



JOSHUA CLARKE'S ALBUM OF THE YEAR

1. Touché Amoré - Stage Four

This record blew me away, the rawness of the lyrics from frontman Jeremy Bolm is staggering. Jeremy lost his mother to cancer and his grief and dealing with her death runs through every track on this album. Not only that but the music accompanies the pain and vulnerable delivery perfectly and capture the mood and help to paint a real picture for this album I can't stop listening to it and I feel it will be an album I will come back to time and time again.

2. Cane Hill - Smile

New kids on the block who draw influences from Korn, Marilyn Manson and the darker side of nu metal but add a fresh twist to create a record full of visceral and vibrant songs. 'MGGDA' is one of the best album openers of the year.

3. Architects - All Our Gods Have Abandoned Us

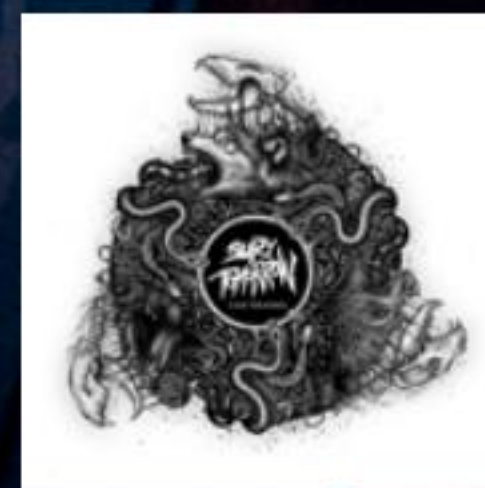
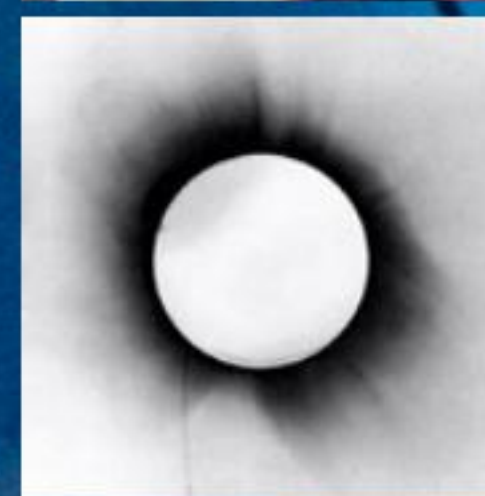
This album has become even more incredible after the loss of founding member and main songwriter Tom Searle (RIP). The lyrical content in 'Gone In The Wind' has taken on even more relevance and importance since his passing but the album is the bands most mature and streamlined effort to date.

4. Every Time I Die - Low Teens

The longest hot streak in the game has just got even longer with a record full of riffs that puts most young bands to shame and don't even come close to the brilliance and full throttle approach that ETID do so well. A truly special band who get better with age.

5. Bury Tomorrow - Earthbound

Stripped back, no thinking, just feel. After the mixed reception to Runes the boys return to form with 10 songs that go by in blistering fashion but what sits in them is some of the biggest choruses the guys have penned to date. The record sounds HUGE and has justifiably taken them to the next step.



ALICE HODDINOTT'S ALBUM OF THE YEAR

Before I begin, I just want to give a special mention to Creeper because The Stranger EP was one of the highlights of my year.

1. Black Peaks - Statues

My life has been filled with Black Peaks since they released their debut album, Statues, back in January; an album which made me putty in their hands. It is full of blistering riffs, gripping hooks and destructive breakdowns. Whether it be in the core of Hang 'Em High, the body of Say You Will or the chaos of White Eyes, there is a constant monumental sound and it is completely irresistible. Seeing Black Peaks play various venues, festival slots and even acoustically in a forest has made me love Statues even more too. It translates so beautifully live; I was truly spellbound the first time I saw it played out in front of me and I still get transported to that place whenever I hear it on record. I really love Statues, it's as simple as that really.

2. letlive. - If I'm The Devil

Not ranking this album alongside Black Peaks as my Album of the Year was so hard because If I'm The Devil is another record I am fully enamoured by. It's letlive. at their most meaningful and fun and it is full of special moments that have made me put them on the highest of pedestals. It's just another incredible release from an incredible band.

3. Architects - All Our Gods Have Abandoned Us

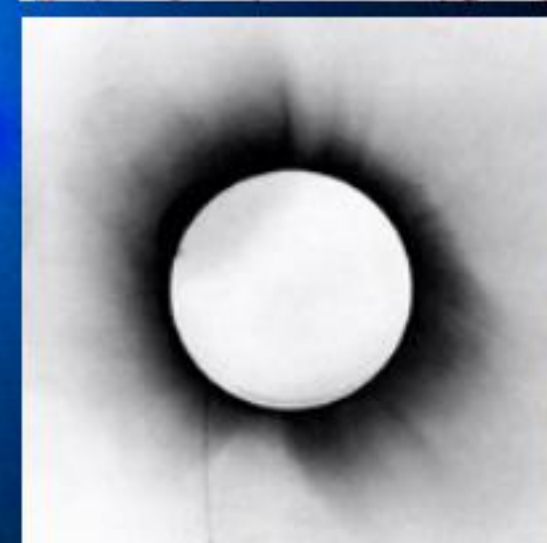
All Our Gods... is an absolutely blistering record. It's been talked about in the highest of regards even before it was released and since the passing of Tom Searle it has become more meaningful than ever. It's the most technically wonderful album I have listened to this year and it is the first time I have truly enjoyed an Architects record in its entirety.

4. God Damn - Everything Ever

God Damn have always been a band I've been thoroughly excited by. This year they released their second album Everything Ever and it is one of the most fun records I've bought this year. Still full of meaty riffs and grizzly vocals, this time round God Damn have added more poppy melodies to their sound and it is great.

5. Biffy Clyro - Ellipsis

I'm a little sad that Ellipsis isn't my number one album of the year but being a huge Biffy fan, it still had to make my top five! The trio's seventh studio album saw them take on another new sound, one that is catchy, fiery and an absolute party. Okay, it's not my favourite Biffy album, nor is it my favourite album to come out of 2016 but it's still an exciting record from one of the best rock bands around today.



JONATHAN MILLER'S ALBUM OF THE YEAR



1. Ignite - A War Against You

For me, Ignite's A War Against You is by far my favourite of the year. There's no other new album constantly in my ears. Whereas previous album, Our Darkest Days, felt a little lackluster with the odd great song, A War Against You is hit after hit. From the gloriously harmonious a cappella intro of the aptly titled Begin Again (- my ringtone) through to the Hungarian sung secret track, Falu, there's barely a dull moment. Although not as hardcore as their earlier records, frontman Zoli's vocals are as powerful as ever and the overall musicianship is tight, intense and moving. There's groove and straight up punk in equal measures, with the exhilarating This Is A War, the gentle Work and the sing-along sensation Alive (- my morning alarm) being stand out tracks. This is the kind of album that will satisfy fans both old and new.



2. Knuckledust - Songs of Sacrifice

Knuckledust have pretty much lead the London hardcore scene for a little under 2 decades and I have grown up listening to them and going to their shows. Songs of Sacrifice heads in a more Wisdom In Chains direction than previous records, with a little more vocal melody from guitarist Wema, such as on the fabulously crafted Life's Struggle. Wema also adds more classic rock style solos and even thrash shredding among their signature hardcore beatdowns which is refreshing. The leading vocals by Pierre are sharp and intense as always, making Knuckledust really stand out from their peers. With songs like Humanity's Nightmare, Legacy Destroyed and the anthemic Family Ties, Songs of Sacrifice was a pleasant surprise, proving that they deserve more recognition.



3. Descendents - Hypercaffium Spazzinate

Over the last few years, I've met many a Descendents fanatic. I was never that massively into them despite knowing their relevance in the hardcore punk scene. Alongside the last album by 7 Seconds, Hypercaffium Spazzinate resonated with me more than any previous record. The songs felt as though they had more structure and more thought put into them. In most part, they're also the most catchiest and melodic that I've heard from the Descendents. Without Love and On Paper are specific highlights that pop into my head on a weekly basis.



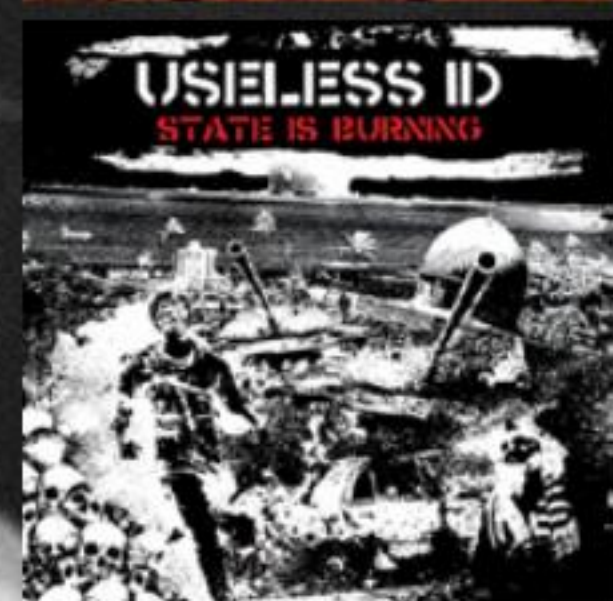
4. Hed PE - Forever!

Although only getting around to hearing this recently, Forever! is the 10th studio album from rap metallers Hed PE. Like the others, it delivers with surprising variety. Pay Me has a riff and groove reminiscent hardcore band Pro-Pain, You Know shifts from relaxing reggae to explosive bouncy metal and Waste is a straight up hardcore punk number. With other tracks also mixing things up, Forever! is an eclectic mix while still managing to be typically Hed PE. They may be considered by some as a joke band, but I have a soft spot for them which this album secures.



5. Useless ID - State Is Burning

The wait for the new album from Israel's most well known pop punk band, Useless ID, was quite a long and exciting one, especially in their homeland. Although the first single, We Don't Want The Airwaves, didn't impress me that much, the preview of the album's opening track, Land of Idiocracy, confirmed that the wait was worth it. With other great songs like Night Shift, Borrowed Time and Stopwatch, State Is Burning is a welcome return from Useless ID, who manage to mix old with the new to create a genuinely enjoyable record.



KRIS AARRE'S ALBUM OF THE YEAR

1. Architects – All Our Gods Have Abandoned Us

The story of this band has been beyond comprehension this year. Coming off the back of an album where they really honed in on a staple Architects sound, recording this fantastic album and a few intimate release shows, shortly followed by the passing of their guitarist Tom Searle. 2016 won't be quickly forgotten. The album was released a few months before Tom's passing and it was clearly going to rank quite highly in my albums of the year list, but since Tom's passing it has taken on a whole new meaning. On the face of it, the album is proficiently written, with a lot of catchy hooks and huge choruses, but when you understand what the band was going through whilst writing the record, it brings a deeper connection. All Our Gods Have Abandoned Us isn't just an amazing collection of songs, it is conceptually challenging and moving. Please, please, please go and check this record out. Listen to it in one sitting from start to finish, and if you can get through Memento Mori without shedding a tear, you're one hell of a tough person to crack.

2. Black Peaks - Statues

Back to something a little closer to home, British proggy alt rock band (difficult to classify) Black Peaks released this rager of an album back in April, and it's retained a spot in my top 5 ever since. Their live show is one thing (seriously check it out), but this album has more twists and turns than the Nürburgring. A stand out vocal performance demonstrating a good range of sung vocals and incredible control over a monstrous scream. Check this out if you're into anything on the more artistically challenging side.

3. Letlive - If I'm The Devil...

The most exciting rock band in the world right now strike again with the soulful If I'm The Devil.... After producing two of the best albums this century with Fake History and The Blackest Beautiful, it may seem like a bit of a daunting task to follow, but Letlive pull out all the stops and deliver the most thought provoking and intelligent songwriting of their careers thus far. Too many stand out tracks to mention on this, but it is the third best album released in a crazy year.

4. Zoax - Zoax

Zoax were one of the biggest surprises this year when we caught them supporting Funeral For a Friend on their farewell tour. Filling the room with enthusiasm and energy, I checked this album out as soon as I got home after the show. It's as interesting on record as it is live, and the personality of frontman Adam Carroll shines through. It's like a mix of alt rock and post hardcore, but there are calls out to Deftones in track Mirrors. There is not particularly vital track on this record, as the variation in styles is huge, but I do urge you all to check out The Wave. This song is a ballad, and I can feel myself going soft in my old age but it's moving, intelligently written and the wall of sound when the song finally drops blocks everything else out of your brain for a short amount of time.

5. The Dear Hunter - The Dear Hunter Act V: Hymns with the Devil in Confessional

Keeping a whole wealth of incredible albums at bay, in the best year we've had in alternative music for a while, is The Dear Hunter. A mixture of prog rock, folk rock, orchestral compositions which all have an element of musical theatre, Casey Crescenzo manages to take the listener on a journey through their emotions. From the soft folky delicacy of Light, contrasting the grandiose elegance of Gloria, please go away and give The Dear Hunter a spin.



NIKLAS BENEDUM'S ALBUM OF THE YEAR

1. Aesop Rock – The Impossible Kid

Yes, I know. Aesop Rock is a rapper and this is not a Rap magazine. The thing is, though: This album is, in my humble and unimportant opinion, A LOT more punk than most Punk records that came out this year. After being in the industry for a solid 20 years now, Aesop Rock has managed to stay unique, true to himself and innovative. After all these years he's still able to release music of the highest quality. The topics he deals with on the record such as depression and what it takes to finally get out of your comfort zone to receive the help you need or growing old just spoke to me on a very personal level. Apart from the last topic maybe. He was able to describe the most delicate emotions so thoroughly without coming across as whiny once. My absolute favourite album of the year.

2. Touché Amoré – Stage Four

Definitely one of the most exciting records this year. First of all I find it impressive how this band managed to change their sound drastically without straying too far from the path but it is also a very stimulating album for me because there are so many things that I, if I was able to write such a great record, would've done differently. The fact that it goes so radically against my natural musical perception is what makes this record so enticing to me. It also has a Julien Baker feature and everything she does is beautiful.

3. Dance Gavin Dance – Mothership

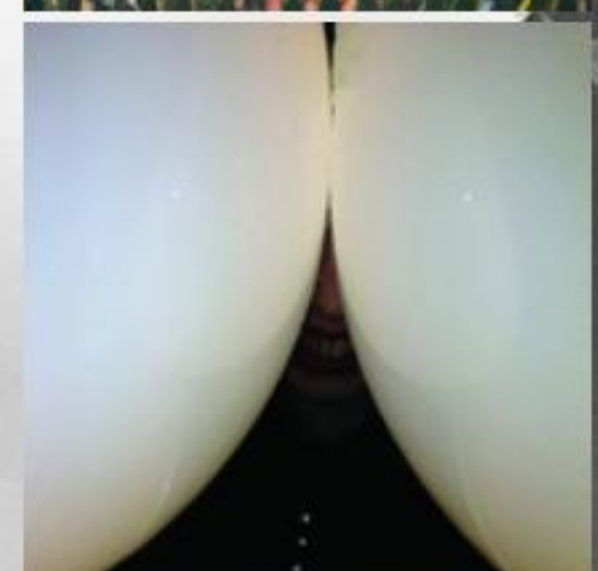
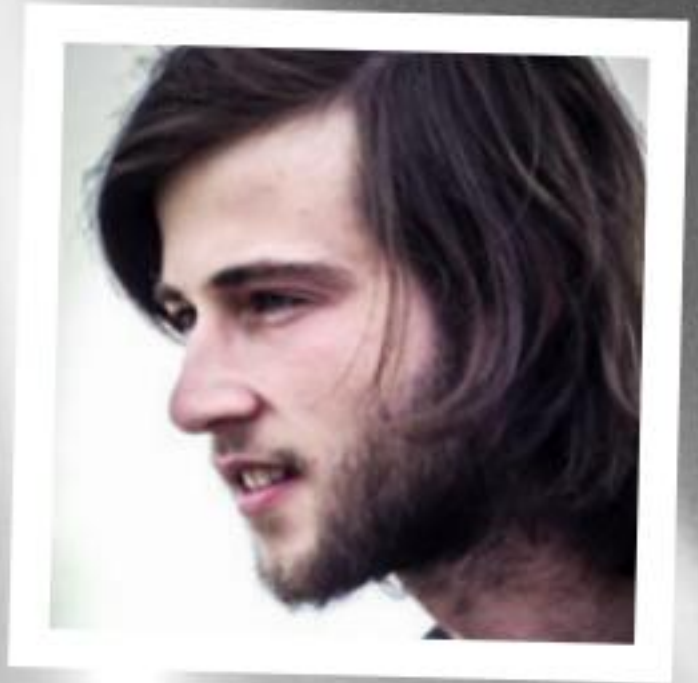
This might be the least objective choice on this list. Regardless of what people might think of this band: I've always had a sweet spot for male, high-pitched voices that sing beautiful melodies and this album takes it to a whole other level. But apart from that it really shows how much the band has progressed over the years. The album is full of intelligent and mature songwriting and smooth transitions between parts but it never sounds boring or blurry. An absolute banger.

4. Death Grips – Bottomless Pit

Oh boy, where do I start here? Death Grips have always been important to me. Simply because they're so raw. They might not be very straightforward sonically but the art in itself couldn't be more "in-your-face". The new album isn't any different. They're still not fucking about. They maintained their innovation and their unique style without repeating their selves. Not something a lot of artists manage to do and this is what makes this album so remarkable for me.

5. Oathbreaker – Rheia

Darker, heavier sound has always been difficult for me. When it comes to capturing darkness on record chaos has always been my go-to approach. This album is different, though. It is one of the very few records that is able to walk the line between heaviness with its traditional blast beats and high-pitched screaming and the slow, atmospheric bits. A torturing record in the best way possible. The suffering undertone in lead singer Caro Tanghe's voice only adds to the goosebumps.



ROBERT BURNS' ALBUM OF THE YEAR

1. Every Time I Die – Low Teens

2016 has been, on balance, a pretty dark year, so it is perhaps fitting that, on balance, Every Time I Die's latest provides more of the same.

It is baffling that eight studio albums into their career Buffalo's finest not only show no signs of slowing down but also manage to deliver what is possibly the album of their career. This is a much more personal record than we've previously seen, abandoning the jocular party rock of tracks like We'rewolf for a much darker tone, Petal's closing rail, "If I have to walk alone I'm giving up, I can't stay here knowing love is not enough," provides a pertinent case in point. The personal trauma of vocalist Keith Buckley that informs much of the lyrical content is accentuated by interplay between guitarist's Jordan Buckley and Andy Williams, and a show stealing turn by Brendan Urie provides an unexpected treat that makes It Remembers the standout moment, in an album full of standout moments.

2. HECK – Instructions

Nottingham hardcore psychopaths Heck faced a thankless task; capturing the intensity and the insanity of their live shows on record. And although nothing will compare to watching lead singer Matt Reynolds launching himself off of the 2000 Trees stage with blatant disregard for his own safety, the album comes close. Combining hook laden choruses with more progressive moments, culminating in a compelling debut record.

3. Black Peak – Statues

British Alt rock needs a new standard bearer; enter Black Peaks. Vocalist Will Gardner's bellowing voice provides the album's standout moment, but the inventive drumming and light and shade approach to guitar playing by Joe Gosney deserve a nod. And finally, an inspired guest vocal appearance by former Reuben man Jamie Lenman pushes this over the edge, and into my top 5.

4. Cult of Luna and Julie Christmas – Mariner

A true meeting of the minds, the contrast created by the huge soundscapes of Cult of Luna and the delicate vocals of Christmas creates an absorbing experience that it's easy to get lost in. Being lucky enough to watch a truly mesmerising performance at this year's Damnation Festival in Leeds further cemented this record as something special in my eyes and meant I couldn't help but include it in my top 5 for the year.

5. Letlive – If I'm the Devil...

Marking an even more drastic departure from 2010's breakthrough album Fake History than The Blackest Beautiful, this album is somewhat bittersweet for me. Lyrically the songs are as potent as ever, with Jason toeing the line between the personal and the political as well as he ever has. Meanwhile, musically the best comparison I could make was with Fallout Boy; Letlive have made a more mainstream friendly album in the vein of what FOB attempted with American Beauty/American Psycho, but much, much better. If Fake History's Letlive is gone now, I'll happily take this Letlive instead.



ZACH REDRUP'S ALBUM OF THE YEAR

1. Architects – All Our Gods Have Abandoned Us

When Architects dropped 'Lost Forever // Lost Together' back in 2014, it was challenging to think just how they could possibly top such a visceral piece of work. Two years later, confident with their sound, 'All Our Gods Have Abandoned Us' left all doubts abandoned, and in its place sat a piece of work that's as bleak and as heavy as the title it sits under.

Sadly, a few months following its release, 'All Our Gods Have Abandoned Us' saw itself as a bittersweet milestone of the band's career, with guitarist and principle songwriter Tom Searle tragically losing his battle with skin cancer on August 20th. Not only did his passing shake waves across the community, but songs like 'Gone With The Wind' in hindsight portrayed a context and message lyrically that made the record all the more painful to bear.

2. Casey – Love Is Not Enough

Writing about failed love, relationships, and romance is far from an original catharsis in any genre of music. However, with a heart breaking sincerity like Tom Weaver, screaming with a half broken voice lines like "Our hearts lay on the bedroom floor / One was mine, but both were yours", Casey's debut 'Love Is Not Enough' is one of the year's most soaring output of solipsism and sadness.

3. Deftones – Gore

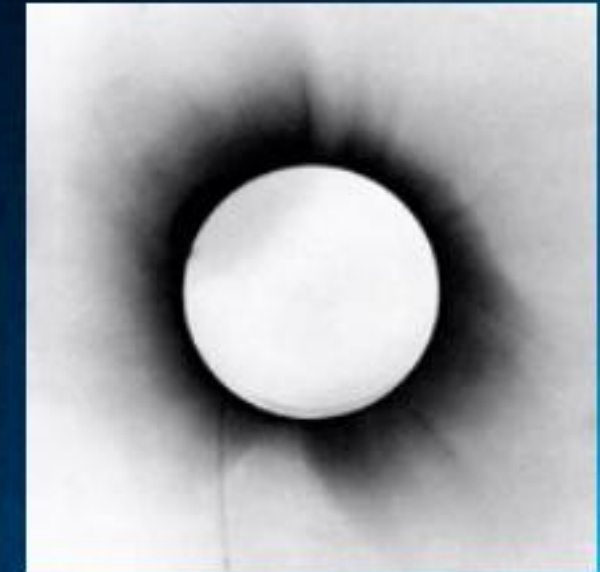
Few bands manage to remain innovative and bear little sign of stagnation after a few years, nevermind a band like Deftones who have been at the game for nearly three decades now, and have been ahead of the game consistently. 'Gore' is the band's first album since bassist Chi Cheng passed in 2013, but instead of unleashing their mourning with blunt aggression, the band delivered arguably one of their most majestic records to date, shifting between spacious dream and merciless nightmare.

4. The 1975 – I Like It When You Sleep, For You Are So Beautiful Yet So Unaware Of It

Blending a flurry of crooning indie, jazzy rock, and synth akin to 80s era electropop, 'I Like It When You Sleep...' sees The 1975 bear their influences on their sleeve, and push their capabilities and restrictions set in place on their self-titled debut. With chart bothering hits like 'The Sound' and 'Love Me', this record is one step closer to securing The 1975 as Manchester based icons of this generation aside hometown legends Oasis, The Smiths, and The Stone Roses.

5. I See Stars – Treehouse

Generally with major shifts in a line-up comes a major downfall not only in speed of productivity, but also in quality of output, but Michigan's I See Stars have proven to be an exception to this rule, despite losing both Zach Johnson (screamer/keyboardist) and Jimmy Gregerson (guitarist) last year. Moving from a sextet to a quartet, Devin Oliver adding screaming to his vocalist resume and Andrew Oliver moving from drums to keyboard duty, I See Stars have never sounded so confident, refined, and accomplished.



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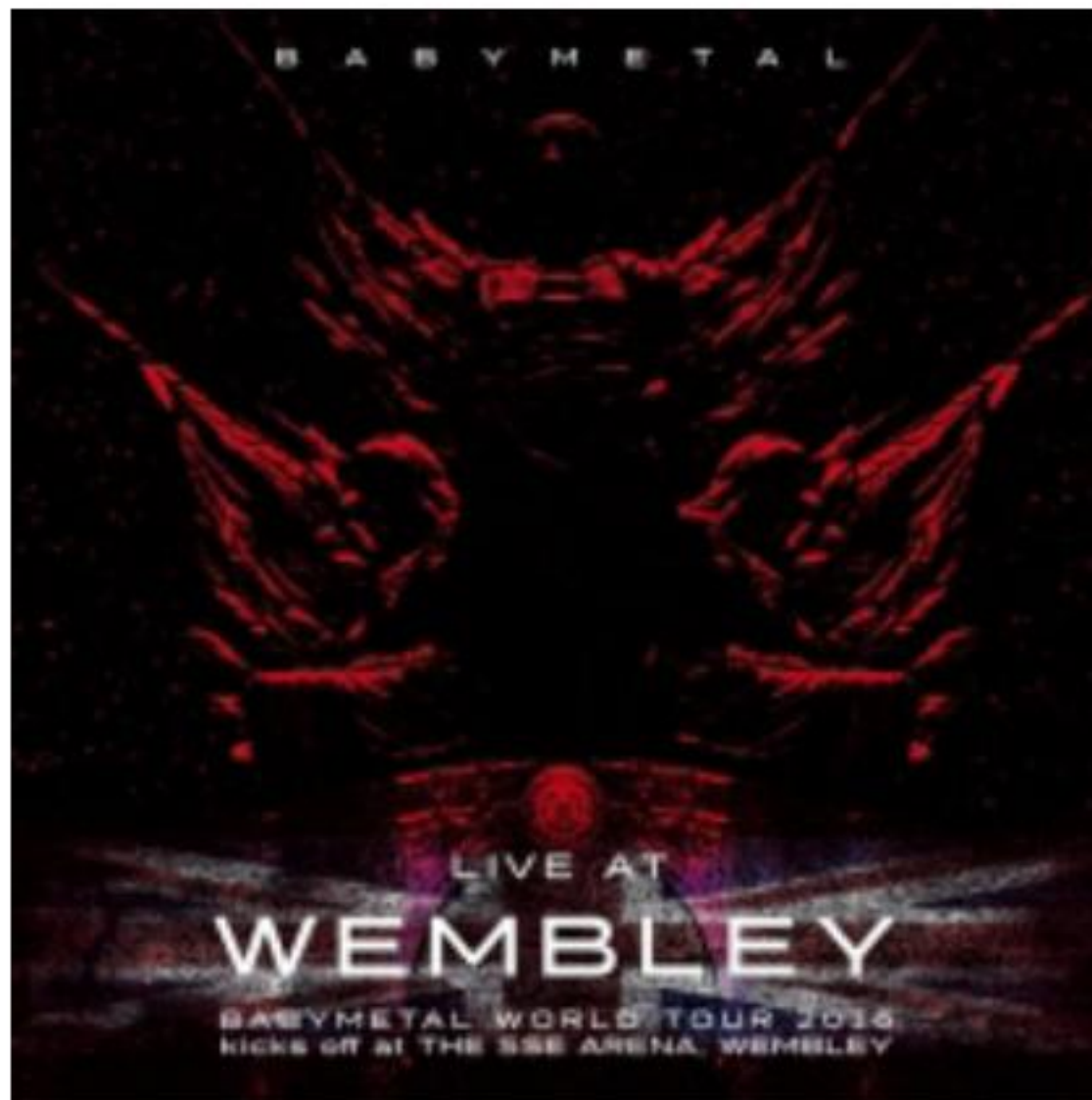
Diabolus - Feast

Chugcore | Release Date: 19th December 2016

Time for something a bit heavy and evil. Diabolus' debut EP Feast boast wonderfully mature songwriting for a genre which can sometimes come across stale and oversaturated. Diabolus boast a pic and mix bag full of treats from nearly every sub genre of extreme metal. Dimmu Borgir vocals interlaced with horribly brutal slams and a ton of shredding guitars. Feast is an elegant balance of hectic death metal with symphonic undertones and melodic string synths. There are even some elements of hardcore that will hopefully translate to an energetic live show.

A hugely promising debut EP from a band who have only recently solidified their lineup. We urge you to check out Chapter II - Servant of the Devil as the band has recently released a cracking video for it, really pushing across their personality. This is one for fans of death metal, black metal, beatdown, slam, hardcore and a whole lot more. Clocking in at less than 18 minutes, Feast is swift, powerful and evil.

Words by **Kris Aarre**



Babymetal - Live At Wembley

earMUSIC | Release Date: 9th December 2016

Japanese metal dance trio Babymetal are a force to be reckoned with. They have shot to fame in the last 12 months with their unique blend of ribcage rattling metal riffs and sweeter than sugar tutu-clad dance routines. But how do Japan's most famous teenage trio fair at a one off, sold out, UK show?

The girls open with a power trio of BABYMETAL DEATH, Awadama Fever and YAYA! which immediately fill you with energy. You can imagine the dancing and the pyro that would have accompanied such numbers making it a fun and exciting listen. However, as a band which rely so heavily on the visual element of their performance, Live At Wembley in audio falls flat at times. It's hard to enjoy Amore and THE ONE, and even Road Of Resistance is one to skip. What saves the album though is fan favourites Doki Doki Morning, Megitsune and Gimme Chocolate!! You can hear the screams and chants of a crowd completely enthused by Babymetal and that is what makes Live At Wembley worth a listen.

Babymetal will continue to be a spectacle; seeing them perform is much more rewarding than listening to them perform. So next time they're in the UK, grab a ticket and see what the Live At Wembley crowd are making such a fuss over.

Words by **Alice Hoddinott**





AB INITIO

Trivium - Ab Initio

Release Date: 2nd December 2016

It's been a long thirteen years since Trivium made their move into being a signed band on Lifeforce records. Ab Initio (From the beginning in Latin) is a re-release of their debut album Ember to Inferno, accompanied with their first three demos, Red, Blue and Yellow. The demos demonstrate their progression from young naïve teenagers, to mature musically professional..... teenagers. Trivium's average band member was aged 17 when this came out and it still sounds as huge now as it did back then. This isn't just a re-release of an old record for a quick cash grab. It fills the gap of many music collections as Ember to Inferno is long out of print and the prior demos fetching as much as £300 on eBay.

Ember to Inferno was the record that brought Trivium over to the UK on a support run in 2004. Ember to Inferno is the album that brought the band to our attention. Ember to Inferno is the album that set the stage for their 2005 appearance at Download festival, opening the main stage, that won over a tremendous amount of people. Trivium have not looked back since, until now. Ab Initio is available as a vinyl collectors box with all of the above mentioned records on separate vinyls.

Words by **Kris Aarre**



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Isle of Wight based singer/songwriter Max Cowley prides himself on writing original music in a different way, with a lot of production sprinkled on top. His music is a mix of electronic/pop with a strong 80's influence. Having already showcased great things from his solo endeavours and having released a number of singles already Max isn't looking back!

www.maxcowleymusic.com
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Introduce yourself! Who are you and where did it all begin? I'm Max Cowley a singer/songwriter electronic pop artist from the Isle of Wight. Music all began for me about 8 years ago when I learned tubular bells by Mike Oldfield on the Piano, from here I never looked back from music and it continues to be my drive today!

How would you describe your sound in just 3 words?
Driven, dedicated, reliable

What has been your biggest highlight as a solo artist so far? For me it's been between two moments. One has to be Performing at the IOW Festival, because it was just fantastic. The second is releasing my charity single A Better Man for Crohns and Colitis UK because the song means a lot to me and is all about one of my best friends who has dealt with a lot in his life. The fact releasing a song like that both raises awareness of the illnesses of Crohns and Colitis and makes money for the cause is amazing!

Looking back at every song you've ever written as a artist, which is your favourite to play and why? Currently my favourite is my opening track to my set, Wake Up. It bursts into life suddenly from a slow intro and is so fun to perform too!



If you could play at any festival in the world, where would you pick? Glastonbury, with Reading just behind.

Who are your biggest musical influences? To be honest musically I try to take influence from as many different musicians as possible, but the 80s electronic pop era is probably where I look to influence the most. Artists like Soft Cell and Depeche Mode and Duran Duran. Of recent years White Lies are a big influence on me too!

If you could form a 'super group' with any other band, who would you pick? That's a tough one! I would have to say if I'm picking my favourite current band it would have to be Foals. But if it's to do with my musical influences probably White Lies

What would be your ideal tour line-up? Depeche Mode, Duran Duran, White Lies and me

What can we expect to see and hear from you in the future? Plenty of new singles, plenty of gigs and a lot of energetic performances!

ELITE: UPRISING

BLOODY KNEES

Brighton-based silly boys Bloody Knees are beautifully grunge and chaotic. They have classic riffs with some naughty twists and vocals which make you feel a bit tingly. Like a lot of bands with their sound, their lyrics are perfect for those days when you need some self-reflection and self-loathing; *Bury Me* is pretty perfect for that. With some trippy videos and two EPs under their belt, there is plenty for you lamenters and headbangers to wrap your ears around.



IDLES

Idles namecheck Mary Berry four times in their punk banger *Well Done*. Why would you need any other reason than that to love them? The truth is, Mary Berry or no Mary Berry, Idles are a rad punk band that you need to pay attention to right now. Giving the middle finger to all that is wrong with the world, Idles are a band to spit with in anger, passion and excitement. They're loud and brash and their debut album *Brutalism*, due March 2017, is set to bury itself in our brains. So get excited now because things are going to get wild with Idles.



WATERMEDOWN

In the past few years there has been a pop punk explosion worldwide. New bands and old have been releasing killer records and embarking on crazy tours, both of which have resurrected a sleeping genre. It's hard to stand out amidst such a boom but WATERMEDOWN has that magic spark. His vocals are whine-tinged just the way we like things in 2016 and his melodies are perfect for dancing to between moshing. He has a vulnerability to his music that is charming and his passion for his art is infectious. For "just another kid with a guitar" he's pretty special.

Words by Alice Hoddinott



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